THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

VOL. X.—NEW SERIES, No. 234.] LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1850. PRICE 6d.

ADDRESS TO THE REV. S. T. PORTER, GLASGOW.

The undersigned members of the Church of Christ meeting for public worship in Belgrave-square Independent Meeting-house, Over Darwen, Lancashire, to the Rev. S. T. Porter, of Glasgow,—

DEAR SIR,—Gratefully remembering the frequent exhortations to Christian faithfulness, and the many expositions of Christian principle and integrity; which you, while our Pastor, were in the habit of enforcing; we beg to assure you that it is with the deepest interest we have watched your course, in the very critical position in which you have, in the providence of God, been placed, in your connexion with the Church at West George-street Chapel, Glasgow.

We have hitherto refrained from addressing you on the subject, believing it unadvisable, and contrary to the principles of our Church polity, to interfere in the internal affairs of other Independent Churches, or in the disputed questions that may arise among their members.

But, as the matter we refer to has been brought before the Christian public, by the parties concerned, and commented upon by the conductors of the religious periodicals and press, and also by many influential ministers of our denomination; and as, in all these cases (so far as we have seen), there has evidently been a desire to exculpate Dr. Wardlaw at the expense of your Christian character and veracity,—we can no longer withhold the expression of our sentiments and views, and beg to assure you of our warmest feelings of sympathy, and our unabated confidence in your Christian faithfulness and integrity.

From twelve years' experience of your pastoral oversight and connexion with you in the bonds of Christian fellowship, we presume we ought to be in a position to form as correct an estimate of your attachment to truth, and devotion to the authority of our Divine Head and Master, as any of those who have ventured to call in question the motives which have urged you to take the course you have done; and we do hereby testify, that our belief is, that you have been actuated alone by a consciousness of duty to the Great Head of the Church, and an anxious desire to maintain the purity and discipline which the New Testament enjoins for the Church. We rejoice that you have been enabled to testify to the power of Divine truth, and enlightened godliness in the course you have pursued; and would offer up our praises to the God of all grace, who has so abundantly blessed you with Christian courage and fortitude in the midst of so severe a trial of your faithfulness. And we would earnestly pray, that you may be long spared, and enabled to maintain and manifest an equally firm attachment to truth and righteousness in all the circumstances of life in which you may in the future, in the providence of God, be placed.

Yours ever faithfully,
In the bonds of the Gospel of Christ,

THOMAS ASHTON, Deacon and Superintendent of the Schools.
JAMES GRIME ditto ditto
THOMAS KIRKHAM, Deacon and Teacher.
CHARLES POTTER, ditto
JOHN KAY, Superintendent of the Schools.
THURSTON BRIGGS, ditto.
JOSEPH LEACH, ditto.
JOHN HINDLE, ditto.
ELIJAH GILSENAN, Lay Preacher and Teacher.
ROBERT WHITE ditto ditto.
JAMES WARDLEY, School Secretary.
TIMOTHY LEACH, Librarian.

These names are followed by the signatures of six-and-twenty Teachers in the Schools, and of sixty-one other Members of the Church.

One hundred and ninety-four Members of the Congregation have also expressed by signature their cordial participation in the sentiments and wishes of the Church.

Over Darwen, 29th of April, 1850.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the Nonconformists of London and its neighbourhood, will be held at FINSBURY CHAPEL, on WEDNESDAY Evening, the 15th inst.,

S. MORTON PETO, Esq., M.P., in the Chair,

To take into consideration the Bill now before Parliament for Legalising Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SAILORS' SOCIETY.

THE SEVENTEENTH ANNIVERSARY will be held at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on TUESDAY Evening, MAY 14, 1850. The Right Hon. the Earl of DUCIE will take the chair at Six o'clock.

THE ANNUAL SERMON will be preached by the Rev. RALPH WARDLAW, D.D., of Glasgow, in the POULTRY CHAPEL, on WEDNESDAY Evening, MAY 15, 1850. Service to commence at Half-past Six o'clock.

THE PEACE SOCIETY.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH PUBLIC ANNIVERSARY of the PEACE SOCIETY will be held in FINSBURY CHAPEL, Moorfields, on TUESDAY EVENING, May 21st, 1850.

CHAS. HINDLEY, Esq., M.P.,

President of the Society, is expected to take the Chair, at Half-past Six o'clock.

Robert Charleton, Esq., Bristol; Rev. John Burnet; Rev. William Brock; Rev. Dr. Massie; A. B. Stevens, Esq.; and other gentlemen have engaged to take part in the proceedings.

Doors open at Six o'clock.

LECTURE HALL, GREENWICH.

MESMERISM EXTRAORDINARY.

MR. REYNOLDSON has arranged to give Three more LECTURES, illustrated by numerous experiments, and a few Gymnastic Feats of the Cripple who was introduced by Perren Mahew, Esq.—on Thursday, May 9; Monday, May 13, and Thursday, May 16. To commence at Eight o'clock each evening. Admission: Reserved Seats, 2s.; Course Tickets, 5s.; Body of the Room, 1s.; Course, ditto, 2s. 6d. Members of the Institution admitted to the Reserved Seats at half price.

Mr. Reynoldson may be consulted professionally at his residence, No. 2, Queen Elizabeth's-row, Greenwich.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT EXETER-HALL, on THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1850.

S. M. PETO, Esq., M.P., in the Chair.

Moved by Rev. Charles Stovel; seconded by E. Corderoy, Esq.:—

That the Report now read be received and printed, under the direction of the Committee, and that the following be the Officers and Committee for the ensuing year, together with the Minute Secretary, and Three Representatives from each of the Four London Auxiliaries:—

PRESIDENT.

Right Honourable the Earl Roden, K.P.

TREASURER.

William Brodie Gurney, Esq.

SECRETARIES.

Mr. William Henry Watson.
Mr. Peter Jackson.
Mr. Robert Latter.
Rev. William Groser.

COMMITTEE.

William F. Lloyd, Hon. Member.

H. Althans.	G. C. Lewis.
W. Bugby.	J. Mann.
W. Bugby, jun.	J. A. Meen.
G. W. Burge.	W. J. Morrish.
R. N. Collins.	R. Mullens.
F. Cuthbertson.	J. H. Newman.
J. Davis.	Charles Reed.
J. Eke.	J. Shorman.
W. Gover.	J. Stoneman.
F. J. Hartley.	W. Turner.

Rev. T. Archer, D.D., moved; Rev. S. G. Green, of Taunton, seconded:—

That this Meeting approves the measures which have been adopted by the Committee for encouraging and assisting Sunday-school Teachers, trusting they will thereby, under the Divine blessing, be excited to a due sense of the importance of their work, and to increased desires and efforts for their own improvement.

Rev. Robert Hamilton moved; Rev. William Groser seconded:—

"That this Meeting has heard with much pleasure of the success which continues to attend the efforts made to extend sound Scriptural instruction in Sunday-schools, assured that such instruction is calculated, under the Divine blessing, to enlighten the understanding and sanctify the heart; and that this Meeting commends to the consideration of their fellow-teachers the importance of seeking the conversion of their scholars as the principal and immediate object of their labours."

Rev. G. Rose moved; Mr. W. H. Watson seconded:—

"That the cordial and respectful thanks of this Meeting be presented to S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., for consenting to preside on this occasion, and for his able conduct in the chair."

Subscriptions and donations will be thankfully received at the Depository, 60, Paternoster-row.

W. H. WATSON,
P. JACKSON,
R. LATTER,
W. GROSER, } Secretaries.

FANCY SALE IN AID OF THE INSTITUTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE DAUGHTERS OF MISSIONARIES, WALTHAMSTOW.

NOTICE OF ALTERATION.

THE FANCY SALE advertised to be held at RADLEY'S HOTEL, will take place at the HALL of COMMERCE, THREADNEEDLE-STREET, on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, the 10th and 11th DAYS of MAY. This extension of time and larger space having been rendered necessary by the generous and unexpected contributions which are arriving from all parts of the country.

Tickets, One Shilling each, may be had at the doors of the London Mission-house, Blomfield-street, and the Baptist Mission-house, Moorgate-street, London, or of the following booksellers:—Ward and Co.; Snow; B. L. Green; and Houlston and Stoneman, Paternoster-row; Jackson and Walford, St. Paul's Churchyard; Nisbet, Berners-street; Shaw, Southampton-row; Gilpin, Bishopsgate-street; Miller and Field, Lambeth; Coventry, Hackney; Pewtress and Son, Newington-causeway; Ramsay, Brompton; Ford, Islington; and Coventry, Tottenham.

A Missionary Volume is in course of preparation, the proceeds resulting from the sale of which will go to the funds of the Bazaar.

All communications may be addressed to Miss PENN, 8, Finsbury-square; and all articles intended for the sale should be sent in forthwith to the Mission-house, as above.

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THOMAS BURR, Secretary.

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WILLIAM SQUIER PLANE, Esq., (Mayor) Gravesend.

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ACTUARY.
G. J. FARRANCE, ESQ.

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THE ACCUMULATIVE, or DEPOSIT SYSTEM, INTRODUCED BY THIS SOCIETY—the Premiums at all times available to the Assured.

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EDWARD FREDERICK LEEKS, Secretary.

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

A LAPSE RECOVERED.

OUR attention and space were so fully engrossed last week, by the proceedings of the Triennial Conference of the British Anti-state-church Association, as to deprive us of all opportunity of noticing how the world wagged. Now that "Richard's himself again"—that we have returned to our ordinary limits and time of publication—and that we have had leisure to glance back at what passed, in Parliament and out of it, in the course of the week, we deem it expedient to sum up in one article the various ecclesiastical topics thrown upon the surface of public affairs during the interval. If anything were needed to show the necessity of organization for disestablishing the Church, and to justify the grave deliberations of the aforesaid Conference, the simple intelligence relating to ecclesiastical matters brought before the public within the last few days, would amply suffice for that purpose. It shows how utterly hopeless are the well-meaning attempts of Church reformers to obtain a more equal and equitable distribution of her enormous wealth. It illustrates most vividly the corrupting influence of the system upon the minds of the best men who administer it. It proves that, whilst attacks are made upon her from without, the spirit of dissension is still rife within; and that many who do not see their way to the only remedy, are yet boldly probing the evil which they know not how to cure. And it demonstrates the fact, that so long as the establishment continues *as such*, so long it will be characterised by a spirit of rapacity and injustice.

Let us briefly notice the more prominent incidents which have occurred within the week, to fix public attention upon the character of the Church Establishment. There was, first of all, a warm, we might almost say a passionate, debate in the House of Commons, upon the Ministerial bill for amending the constitution of the Ecclesiastical Commission. That Commission, as it now exists, is well known to be completely at the mercy of Church dignitaries, whose influence over its proceedings, direct and indirect, is paramount. It is tolerably notorious, moreover, that its acts have evinced wonderful partiality for episcopal ostentation; and that it has been more solicitous to build palaces for the Church's rulers, than to augment the livings of the Church's working clergy. It came to be seen, that it was absolutely necessary, in order to any decent fulfilment of the avowed ends of the Commission, to place the management of the property falling to it in other and responsible hands. This is the professed object of the bill now before the House—an object which, while it seems to aim at compassing, it is framed as if on purpose to frustrate. There are to be three Commissioners; two paid, and one unpaid; one of the former to be appointed by the Crown, the other by the Archbishop of Canterbury. These functionaries are merely to have the power of consulting and recommending on the several matters pertaining to their office—the right having been reserved for the old Commission to deal with the advice tendered them according to their will. The reform, therefore, is a nominal one merely. It is a sham; and it is seen to be such. It is plain to the public, that ministers have yielded to ecclesiastical dictation, and that the Church is not at all disposed to set its "house in order." The debate, therefore, was somewhat fierce; and the defence of their episcopal friends, volunteered by Mr. Goulburn and Sir Robert Inglis, only made matters worse.

As if to prove the debasing influence of the State-church system upon men whose character in other respects commands veneration, it came out in the course of the week, that the Archbishop of Canterbury had nominated his own son, a minor, to the reversion of a sinecure office, estimated to be worth about twelve thousand a year, which his predecessor, Dr. Howley, had recommended for abolition, and had consequently declined to provide with a future beneficiary. Mr. Sumner, the son of the Bishop of Winchester, who was at first supposed to be the fortunate nominee, corrected the mistake in terms that implied anxiety to be held free from all participation in the *crime*—but has, since then, written to the papers to show how natural and proper was the conduct of his uncle. The public, perhaps, will judge otherwise, and, spite of all protestations and explanations, will conclude, that within the charmed circle of ecclesiastical rulership, nepotism and a greediness of gain have power to blind the eyes even of the best men to all the claims of reputation, decency, and justice.

We come now to the Bishop of Exeter, who, determined not to leave a stone unturned, has made application, by his counsel, to the Court of Common Pleas, for a prohibition, in the case of Gorham *versus* himself. Possibly, he hopes, by getting from under the eye of Lord Chief Justice Campbell, to obtain a more favourable hearing of his suit. At any rate, unless the judges of that Court concur at once with the judgment delivered by the Court of Queen's Bench, the affair will give plenty of employment to the lawyers yet. The Bishop is about the last man in the world to confess himself beaten, and he represents, and ably represents, a clerical party strong enough to make their submission a very annoying duty. Before we pass away from this topic, we beg strongly to recommend to those of our readers who desire to get a thorough insight into the controversy of which this suit is but an exponent, a little work, recently published, the title of which we have cited in full in the note below.* The substance of it appeared originally in the shape of a series of articles in the *Christian Times*, under the title of "The Observatory," written in a lively style, in a candid spirit, with an evident mastery of the facts of the case, and with that high ability, which can only be evinced by one who looks down upon the warfare which he describes from a higher position than that occupied by either of the disputing parties. The short preface, by John Search, a *nom de guerre* which will instantly suggest the name of the writer, is like most of his productions, pithy, pertinent, and powerful, a graceful introduction, and no more, to the pages which follow it. We cordially urge upon our readers to read this little work, if only for the purpose of qualifying themselves for watching with intelligent interest to its close, the strangest ecclesiastical contest of modern times.

Touching the Whig attempt, on the pretext of making compensation for clerical fees, to be foregone to filch from the people a perpetual annuity for the Church, in return for duties which it will cease to perform, we have spoken more at large elsewhere. We advert to it now, simply for the purpose of completing this bird's-eye view of ecclesiastical topics. Who shall say, with such facts, compressed within the limits of one week's intelligence, that this is a proper time for ceasing all efforts to obtain a Separation of the Church from the State? Every one of these facts is an argument for perseverance. Every one will produce converts to our doctrine, where our own reasonings would have proved insufficient. And every one will contribute largely towards the formation of that state of public opinion, which will ultimately condemn the Establishment to utter abolition, as a useless pretence, and an organ fitted only for the perpetration of mischief.

* The Great Gorham Case; a History in Five Books, including Expositions of the Rival Baptismal Theories. By a Looker-on. With a Preface, by John Search. London: Partridge and Oakey, Paternoster-row.

THE LAST, WORST ILLUSTRATION OF STATE-CHURCHISM.

"THE trail of the serpent is over them all," is a well-remembered line, never more aptly quoted than in reference to State-church influence on acts of legislation. Nothing can be done, in the doing of which Church dignitaries are not consulted, and Church interests conserved. Nothing is too great or too minute to be regarded. Distance of place and time is of no account—the antipodes and posterity alike feel the slimy touch of the ubiquitous monster. Yesterday, the Australian Colonies were saddled with the burden of clerical support—to-day, it is the burial of the dead that is made to yield a perpetual annuity to ecclesiastical greediness.

The Metropolitan Interment Bill—an abstract of which we gave in a recent number—has faults enough of a general character to render it only tolerable on account of the indispensably important object to which it is directed; and to excite the fears of sanitary reformers lest those salient points should so attract the opposition of vested interests, in passing through the dangerous defile of a Parliamentary Committee, as to occasion its virtual destruction. Our own gravest objection, however, is to those clauses (29 and 30) which ensure to clerical incumbents *a perpetual* annuity, as compensation for the loss of burial fees. Regard to life interests is only equitable. The public permitting the enjoyment of certain emoluments, should not unconditionally supersede them. But with life all these obligations obviously terminate. Death extinguishes all right to sublunary possessions—or to such, at all events, as are conditional on the rendering of certain services. *Hic jacet* is the full discharge of those contracts. A man cannot be entitled to compensation for the loss of what he never possessed. Accordingly, while clerks and sextons are to receive an equivalent for the cessation of their incomes from interments—the cessation of their duties being also considered—no mention is made of their successors. But the income of clerical incumbents, from the same source, is to be calculated on the average of the last five years, and paid year after year, generation after generation, though no service will be required! True, deduction on the latter score may be made, in the case of future incumbents, at the will of certain commissioners—subject to the approbation of the Bishop of London! the latter proviso, of course, quite an unimportant one.

We call this the worst, as well as the last, illustration of State-churchism. The combined impudence and invidiousness of the proposal are perfectly revolting. It is not merely an attempt to establish for the clergy of a sect an inalienable property in the corpses of all citizens—to make every one that descends to the regions of the dead, down to the very "last man," pay toll for his passage into the dread abode—to fasten upon the mind of succeeding generations, by the authority of law, the wretched superstition that attaches high importance to consecrated ground and sacerdotal rites; and to tie up that influence to one order of religionists, while it levies its tax upon the members of all and of none; suffering no man to find a grave except from its price be substracted payment to a priest who has rendered no service whatever, real or imaginary—not only is it thus monstrous in its injustice, but it is loathsome in its meanness; creeping into a measure demanded by the common sense and the self-interest, the decencies and the sanctities, of society—hoping to escape observation in the storm raised by interested parties against far less mischievous provisions—trafficking in a prevalent public feeling, one of the best of the age, and long enough, surely, in coming to its present strength. It is difficult to believe, at first sight,

that the attempt is really made—and difficult to subdue one's indignation to serious opposition when its reality is established. All objectors, no doubt, will be assailed with the replies which apply only to one class—and that a class with whom we have not the slightest sympathy. We once more, and earnestly, disclaim any desire to thwart the apparent determination of the Government to suppress intramural interments. We have done what we could to brace up their determination to its present pitch, by influencing, to our utmost ability, the public mind in that direction. On those who deliberately spoil a most needful and beneficial measure, by tacking to it their own monstrous assumptions—on their heads be the blame of its damage or destruction. The retribution of such base, unscrupulous selfishness may tarry, but it is inevitable, and will be heavy in proportion to its delay.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

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Wesleyan Expulsions.—The Rev. Alexander Bell, Wesleyan Superintendent of the York Circuit, and before whom Messrs. Taylor, Coultas, and Hirstwood were recently tried, on the charge of having attended the meetings of Wesleyan delegates in London, has forwarded to them the decisions on their respective cases, which deprive them of their offices as leaders and local preachers, but continue them in trial in membership. Mr. H. Wilson, a local preacher in the fifth Manchester district, has been expelled from the society by a meeting of local preachers—the Rev. George Osborne presiding on the occasion. Sentence of expulsion is to be pronounced on Saturday next, unless Mr. Wilson should, in the meantime, express contrition. The defendant, however, so far from doing so, advised an immediate sentence, observing that he was more deeply impressed than ever with the necessity of a reform, and should not retract his views. The trial is said to have caused a great deal of dissatisfaction among the local preachers generally, and from a circular which is about to be issued, it is likely they will enter a protest against Mr. Osborne's unusual proceedings. Mr. William Martin, a partner in the firm of Martin, Wood, and Boyer, corn merchants, Manchester, who is a local preacher in the Wesleyan Methodist connexion in the Altrincham circuit, and one of the ablest members of the body in that neighbourhood, was, on Wednesday evening, put upon his trial, with a view to his expulsion, before a special leaders' meeting at Altrincham. Mr. Martin presided at the meeting recently held at the Free-trade Hall, in favour of Wesleyan reform. Mr. Martin only attended for the purpose of reading a long protest against the tribunal before which he was cited; and against the laws under which the proceedings were instituted. After reading this document, Mr. Martin quitted the meeting. The charge against him having been afterwards proved to the satisfaction of the meeting, their decision was postponed to another meeting, to be held in the course of this week.

THE GORHAM CASE.

EPISCOPAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The Rev. Mr Maskell, Vicar of St. Mary Church, in the diocese of Exeter, resolved after the decision of the Judicial Committee of Privy Council in the Gorham case, to resign his ministry in a church which, in his construction, that decision implies to have no doctrines to teach and no faith to inculcate, except on the one point of the Trinity. But his parishioners, affectionately regarding him, and eschewing the increasing scandal of such consequences of the Gorham decision, passed a resolution dissuading him from his purpose, and sent a memorial to his diocesan, the Bishop of Exeter, beseeching that dignitary to decline accepting Mr. Maskell's resignation. A correspondence ensued between the Bishop and Mr. Maskell; subsequently a correspondence ensued between Mr. Maskell and the Archbishop of Canterbury; and Mr. Maskell has published the whole.

The Bishop of Exeter's letter, dated the 14th of April, is a reply to a copy of Mr. Maskell's "Second Letter on the present Position of the High Church Party in the Church of England," published on the 10th of April, to explain his reasons for resigning his cure of souls.

The Bishop at once pronounces Mr. Maskell's main position—that every church is bound to have dogmatic teaching on the particulars he mentions—untenable. "Dogmatic teaching, beyond the acceptance and enforcement of the creeds, is not of itself essential to the catholicity of a church." If her formularies are based on the creeds, and her sacraments of baptism and the eucharist include what is necessary to their due administration, then all that is essential is enjoyed in her communion. Still, a "more dogmatical teaching" to oppose rising heresies, and "clearer and more conclusive" articles, containing "other particulars," were much to be wished. But a scheme of dogmatical teaching on the matters which Mr. Maskell enumerates would cut off from the communion of the Church all ministers dissenting in any particular; and if so, there must be excommunication for matters not fundamental.

Then comes the practical question—is there anything in the pamphlet making it Mr. Maskell's duty to leave his charge? Though it must be read with pain, and with much apprehension for the effect it will produce, there seems nothing in it "which exceeds the bounds of—I do not say discreet—I do not say charitable—I do not say dutiful—but I do say tolerable discussion." Mr. Maskell has a right to urge a removal of blemishes, a supply of deficiencies, a nearer approach to completeness; "and if this has been done in a manner which many (myself among the number) shall think undutiful, I do not think that we are thereby justified—on the contrary, I think we should be schismatical—in telling you to quit us." "It would be our wisdom to consider, with minds as little as possible disturbed by dissatisfaction at your tone," the important matter you bring before us. "That there is much of truth in what you say, I feel; that there is so much as you believe, I cannot assent." "The measure immediately necessary—the necessity of which is pressing upon us—is the restoration of Synodical action. I am sorry to be obliged to add, that I do not think that you have, in this your late effort, facilitated that restoration; for you will, I think, have exasperated the disinclination to it in men of authority; though you will probably have increased in many minds, as you have in mine, an earnest longing for it." The Bishop therefore expresses his opinion that it is Mr. Maskell's duty to retain his charge.

After some further letters, Mr. Maskell laid all the circumstances, and his perplexities, before the Archbishop of Canterbury; and ventured to ask his Grace what doctrines he ought to teach his people to believe:—

Ought I teach, and have I the authority of the Church of England to teach, that the grace of regeneration, together with the remission of original sin, is certainly given to all infants in the sacrament of holy baptism? Again, upon the same and equal authority, that justification is always concurrent with the due reception of the sacrament of baptism? Or again, that an especial gift of the Holy Ghost is, in a sacramental manner, given to faithful recipients, in confirmation, by the laying on of the hands of the bishop? Or again, that orders transmitted through the Episcopate is of the essence of the Christian Church? Or, once more, that the words in the Ordinal, "Whosesoever sins thou dost forgive, they are forgiven," &c., convey to the priesthood the power of absolving penitents, to be exercised, in its fulness, only after particular confession, as indicated in the office of Holy Communication and the Visitation of the Sick?

These subjects, my Lord, I consider to be intimately connected with the foundations of religious faith, and, according as they are believed, with the daily life and practice of every Christian man. It is impossible, I suppose, that the church of Christ should have left them undetermined.

The Archbishop replied at considerable length, with perfect courtesy, and with much caution:—

Your Bishop justly states, that there are many subjects connected with our holy religion upon which we have no reason to expect the dogmatic teaching of the Church. Indeed, your second published letter complains of matters left undetermined, upon which the Church could not possibly pronounce a decision, unless it were her office to reveal what is to be believed, rather than to teach what has been revealed. To a certain extent, this was the case with the questions now asked.

Respecting the grace of regeneration, the Archbishop says, that what is included in it is not declared in the Articles; nor is regeneration limited to baptism; but the rubric furnishes "some answer," which he quotes. On justification, the Church can only teach as scripture teaches; it cannot intrude into "secret things:" he again quotes texts, "further than which we are not clearly informed." The other three questions he groups together, and again answers, that the Church has no authority to teach more than is revealed in the scriptures. On confirmation she is "prudently silent," as scripture confirmation differs from that prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer. So with regard to Episcopacy, she is content with saying that from the Apostles' time, the three orders of bishops, priests, and deacons, have come down to us. As to absolution and remission of sins, if she has not taught more than it is "given to all them that truly repent and believe," it is not that her teaching is defective, but that she finds no instructions in scripture which justify her in saying more.

Scarce hoping that his superficial reply on matters requiring volumes to discuss will be satisfactory, the Archbishop still hopes it may suggest thoughts of the danger of the step Mr. Maskell has meditated.

Mr. Maskell, not satisfied, again addressed the Archbishop, preferring his petition for more categorical replies:—

Am I right in so understanding your replies to my questions, as to conclude that I ought not to teach, and that I have not the authority of the Church of England to teach, any of the doctrines spoken of in those five questions, in the dogmatical terms there stated?

The archbishop could "only answer the second inquiry by another—are the doctrines contained in the Word of God?" "Preach the Word." Nothing not there found, nothing not thereby taught, is to be thought requisite for salvation, or taught for belief.

Mr. Maskell now felt on firm land—

He does believe that all those doctrines are to be found in and fully proved by Holy Scripture as being certainly true. But he consents to his grace's opinion, that he is nevertheless not so authorized to teach them as would forbid and condemn his teaching the contrary. So that, with pain and sorrow, he finds it to be as he supposed—that he has no faith and no doctrines to teach on any subject, except perhaps regarding the ever-blessed Trinity, as certainly the doctrines and the faith of the Church in which he is a minister. "In other words, if there is anything which I ought to teach, it is this, that the Church of England has no distinct doctrine except on a single subject."

He closes the correspondence with an apostrophe on so lamentable a state of things. "My Lord, can there be any religious system devised on earth so destructive of spiritual life, and so opposed to the reality of spiritual practice, as one which, under the guise of purity and moderation, throws open all doctrines except one to the determination of each man's private judgment, and suffers us to believe (as we will) either this or that, or, if we dare to do so, nothing at all? Nor do I see how such a system, once openly avowed, can fail to lead thousands into infidelity."

A reply by the Bishop of Exeter to a numerously signed address of sympathy from Nottingham contained these expressions—"The time is coming—rather, is already come—when every one must declare himself, if he is faithful. *Individual* confession of the true faith is now necessary; for we have ceased to have security for the assertion of that faith by the laws of the State, and the very possibility of asserting it by Synod is denied to us."

Mr. Beresford Hope has forwarded to the newspapers, for publication this week, a letter addressed to him by the Bishop of London. It is dated on the 11th of March, nearly a fortnight earlier than the one addressed to Mr. Cavendish, and published some weeks ago. The purport of the letter only now published, is to quiet Mr. Hope's uneasiness, by assuring him that neither the sentence of an Ecclesiastical Court nor that of the Judicial Committee can be regarded as finally settling any question of doctrine. Meanwhile, the friends of the Church must not leave it until "Convocation shall by a solemn act reject the doctrine of baptismal regeneration:" before that, it would be "an act of schism," an abandonment of the ship in distress.

Another Application to a Lay Court.—An application was made by Sir Fitzroy Kelly to the Court of Common Pleas, on Thursday, to grant a rule such as the Court of Queen's Bench lately refused, to prohibit the Court of Arches from proceeding in the Gorham case according to the decision of the Committee of Privy Council. Sir Fitzroy complained that the judgment overruled in three lines the best and greatest writers, and begged the whole question, by assuming that the 19th chapter of the 25th of Henry VIII. repeals the 12th chapter of the 24th of Henry VIII. He remarked on the Lord Chief Justice's participation in a judgment in a case which he had previously adjudged in the Privy Council—a course entirely against usage and precedent; and criticised errors made by the learned biographer of the Chancellors in his allusions to the pliant Lord Audley and Sir Thomas More; for instance, it was a mistake to say that the first of the two statutes was passed under Sir Thomas More, and the other under Lord Audley; they were both passed under Chancellor Audley. Sir Fitzroy quoted a great body of text-writers on his side, and conjured the Court to grant the rule and give the matter their most serious consideration, as neither property, liberty, nor life, would be safe if that which had been law for three centuries could be overruled without discussion. Chief Justice Wilde intimated that the Court must in justice read and consider the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, before they decide that the question required further consideration. The Bishop of Exeter was present during the proceedings.

University of Oxford and the Gorham Case.—A declaration signed by upwards of forty tutors in Oxford University was presented to the Vice-Chancellor on Thursday morning, in which the subscribers solemnly declare that, "in the discharge of the duties imposed on us by the above statutes, we teach and maintain, and, by the help of God, will continue to teach and maintain, the remission of sins to all infants in and by the grace of holy baptism, and also the regeneration of the same universally by that blessed sacrament, not only as a tolerated opinion, but as an essential doctrine of the Church of England in common with the universal Church of Christ."

The Bishop of Gloucester has declined to withhold his license from the Rev. Robert Simpson,

formerly editor of the *Bristol Protestant*, whom the magistrates had appointed to the chaplaincy of Bristol bridewell, and whom the Anglo-Catholic clergy accused of "grievous heresy upon a fundamental article of Catholic faith."

Sale of Church Preferments.—A Neck and Neck Race.—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners, on the 10th ult., sold the advowson of the vicarage of St. Botolph, Boston, by public tender, for about £3,000. The incumbent was in his seventy-first year. He, however, died about half an hour before the transfer of "the cure of souls" was completed, in consequence of which the Bishop of the diocese claims the next presentation by lapse.

The Bishop of Worcester, in a letter in reference to the Gorham case, to the Hon. and Rev. G. Yorke, lamenting the agitation of the Tractarian party, says that, with the view of allaying agitation, "the bishops have already held three meetings, which have been very numerously attended, and they are to meet again on Monday next, when probably some final result may be determined."

It is said that only *two* of the Episcopal Bench are in favour of a meeting of Convocation being summoned.

The Great Industrial Exhibition.—American Speculation.—An influential meeting of the inhabitants of Marylebone was held on Thursday, to promote the proposed exhibition; Sir B. Hall, M.P., Lord D. Stuart, M.P., and Mr. Cobden, M.P., were the chief speakers. The latter gentleman endeavoured to show that all classes would be benefited by the influx of 1,000,000 persons, who would gather to the metropolis between May and September. He also acquainted the meeting of a project on foot in the United States, for purchasing the exposition as soon as it should be finished, and carrying it off bodily to New York! The men who started this idea were persons of high respectability and large capital, one of them being the owner of the line of packet ships between London and New York, and he (Mr. Cobden) believed that that idea would be carried out, and that it would prove an admirable speculation. The hon. gentleman, at the close of his speech, thus referred to the exertions of Prince Albert in promoting the exhibition. "I would not wish to flatter any one; but I do not hesitate to say that his Royal Highness has done three times as much as any other man in the promotion of these objects, whilst from this time until next year he will have more mental anxiety, daily labour, and perplexing toil, than any working man in the United Kingdom. I would rather be Prince Albert, associated with this exhibition, than the Prince Eugene, or Marlborough of history, associated with the battle-fields of victory." It was stated by Lord Overstone, on Friday, to a meeting of the London committee of bankers, &c., for promoting Prince Albert's Show of Industry, that £50,000 has already been subscribed.

Mr. Dixon, of Stansted, in Essex, who has endowed a college for six decayed merchants of London, laid the foundation-stone of the building last week. Each of the inmates is to have £50 per annum and a separate apartment, and spiritual, medical, and domestic attendance, and other requisites.

Captain Austin's Arctic Expedition of four vessels left Greenhithe on Friday morning on its Northern route.

The Owens College.—It is reported, on good authority, that the trustees of this College have resolved to obtain the opinion of counsel on the question, whether the course they propose to adopt as to special instruction in theology, be or be not in accordance with the will under which they act. While it is gratifying to find that the recent strong expression of opinion against the recommendation of the trustees has so far not been without effect, we cannot but consider that this very step is decisive against the recommendation.—*Manchester Examiner.*

Government Interment Bill.—A public meeting was held on Tuesday week, at the Craven Hotel, Craven-street, Strand, of the objectors to the provisions of the Government Interment Bill, for the purpose of concluding arrangements preliminary to a future public meeting on the subject, when the bill and its clauses should be considered at length. Mr. James Wyld, M.P., who was called to the chair, addressed a few words to the meeting, condemning in general terms the purpose and clauses of the bill, directing his observations particularly against the injustice of giving compensation for fees to the established clergy, and not to Dissenters, and making no positive provision for those who derived large incomes from burying-grounds and cemeteries. He believed the power of assessment vested in the Board of Health would injuriously interfere with private interests, and become onerous to the community at large; nor did it do away with the practice of burying in the town; for it still permitted the use of vaults as places of interment. Several gentlemen, principally churchwardens from the several parishes of London, spoke against the bill in very strong terms; after which, Mr. Hargrave Stephens moved that a committee be appointed to watch over the progress of the bill in Parliament. This resolution having been unanimously carried, it was further resolved that the committee should appoint the day for discussing in public the various clauses of the bill.

A tesselated Roman pavement, in excellent preservation, has recently been discovered in Bridge-street, Chester.

University College, London.—The Council at their session, on Saturday last, appointed Mr. E. J. Chapman to the Professorship of Mineralogy, recently instituted by them.

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Albion Chapel, Moorgate.—On Friday evening, 26th of April, a meeting was held at the above chapel, for the purpose of presenting to the Rev. J. Young, who lately resigned the pastoral charge of this church, a massive and elegant silver tea-service, which bore the following inscription:—"Presented to the Rev. John Young, A.M., twenty-one years their minister, by the congregation of Albion Chapel, in token of their deep and enduring sense of the entire integrity, self-sacrificing zeal, and genuine worth of his personal character and public ministry." None but subscribers to the testimonial and their families were present, but the meeting was very largely attended, and presided over by Thomas Walker, Esq., who has been an elder of this church for more than fifty years. The venerable chairman having presented the gift, Mr. Young, in a brief, but earnest address, acknowledged his deep sense of the continued kindness of the congregation in the presentation of such a token of their regard, after he had seen it his duty, notwithstanding their repeated and earnest entreaties that he should continue to be their minister, to resign the pastoral oversight of the church.

Kidderminster.—On Sunday, April 14th, the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, Kidderminster, was reopened, when sermons were preached in the morning and evening by the Rev. Peter Sibree, of Birmingham, and in the afternoon by the Rev. Edward Russell, Wesleyan. On Monday evening, April 15th, the Rev. J. G. Carpenter, late of Cheshunt College, was publicly ordained to the pastorate of the church and congregation assembling in the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, Kidderminster. After singing a hymn, the Rev. J. Parsons, of Brierley Hill, read the scriptures and engaged in prayer; the Rev. Watson Smith, of Wolverhampton, delivered the introductory discourse. The Confession of Faith was received by the Rev. Peter Sibree, who offered the ordination prayer. The Rev. D. K. Shoebotham, of Dudley, gave a faithful and an affectionate charge to the minister, from John xxi. 15—17. The chapel was crowded to excess, and the service was exceedingly interesting and solemn. The Rev. J. Shaw, of Bridgenorth, and the Rev. G. Dobson, took part in the proceedings of the evening. On Tuesday evening, a tea-meeting was held in the school-rooms connected with the above place of worship, when upwards of 200 persons were present. The meeting was addressed by the Revs. J. Parsons, D. K. Shoebotham, — Milla (Baptist), and J. G. Carpenter. The entire sum collected for defraying the necessary expenses incurred for painting, cleaning the chapel, &c., on the Lord's-day, and by cards, amounted to £100.

Deal, Kent.—On Wednesday, May 1, the Rev. T. S. Baker was recognised as the pastor of the Baptist church assembling at Sion Chapel. The Rev. Mr. Craig, pastor of the Independent church, commenced the services by reading the scriptures and prayer. Rev. H. J. Bevis, of Ramsgate, delivered a lucid and masterly discourse on the great principles of Protestant Nonconformity, as supported by the scriptures. The Rev. T. Clarke, of Ashford, proposed the usual questions; the responses to which were clear, scriptural, and forcible; after which, he offered the recognition prayer. The Rev. J. Acworth, D.D., LL.D., Mr. Baker's tutor, gave an affectionate, eloquent, and impressive charge from Acts xx. 28, eliciting from all the warmest approbation. Rev. D. Jones, of Folkestone, concluded with prayer. In the evening, the Rev. T. Wells, of Ramsgate, addressed the Church, in the spirit of Christian philanthropy and affection, on their obligation to their pastor.

The Rev. W. H. Elliott, in consequence of other engagements, has resigned the pastoral office in connexion with the Baptist church in Shoreditch.

Albany Chapel, Regent's Park.—On Wednesday evening, April the 17th, a social meeting of the congregation worshipping in the above chapel, was held in the school-rooms. The Rev. John Davies, pastor, presided. After tea, the report of the committee for the liquidation of the debt upon the chapel, was presented. During the past year £1,121 has been raised, in addition to which £150 has been collected for repairing and improving the chapel. The meeting was addressed by various friends. Considerable sums are already promised towards the remaining debt. Committees of ladies and gentlemen are actively engaged for its entire extinction.

New Independent Church and Congregation, St. Heliers, Jersey.—The Rev. H. J. Chancellor, late of Highbury College, has received and accepted a unanimous invitation to be the pastor of the above church and congregation, assembling, for the present, in the Temperance Hall, Providence-street. This new church and congregation form the secession from the Independent chapel, Union-street, which has taken place within the last five months, in consequence of the unhappy events that have transpired there.

Mr. G. Gaunt, Waddington, of Airedale College, has received and accepted a unanimous and cordial invitation from the church and congregation assembling in the Independent chapel, Greenacres, near Manchester, and intends entering upon his labours there in August next.

Mr. William Dixon, of Airedale College, has received and accepted a unanimous invitation from the church and congregation assembling in the Independent chapel, Spring Head, Yorkshire; and will enter on his labours after the termination of his studies in June.

CORRESPONDENCE.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir,—A public meeting is to be held on Wednesday next, at which it may be hoped that none of your metropolitan readers will fail to attend. It is for the "consideration," that is, no doubt, the support, of Mr. Stuart Wortley's bill, which has now been twice read in the House of Commons, by triumphant majorities, for legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister. This matter, which is deeply interesting to society at large, has now become peculiarly interesting to us as Nonconformists. Time was when it was boldly asserted that such marriages were forbidden by holy Scripture; but this ground is now generally abandoned, even by the advocates of restriction, and what we are now told is, that such marriages are contrary to ecclesiastical law, that is, the law of the Church of England. To prohibit them by act of Parliament, then, is nothing less than to make the law of the Church of England to be the law of the United Kingdom, and to fix upon the neck of the whole population the yoke of ecclesiastical rule. If the members of the Church of England must needs be subject to the law of their Church, that is their business; but why should those be subject to its laws who are not its members? If Churchmen wish it, let Parliament legislate for them, as Churchmen, and bind their fetters as fast as may be agreeable to them; but let Parliament legislate *for us*, who are not Churchmen, *as men*, and bind us no further than the will of God shall warrant them. This is one case of a large question, one application of a great and important principle, and I hope the Nonconformists of London will evince their perception and appreciation of it, by a numerous and earnest attendance at Finsbury Chapel, on Wednesday evening next. Mr. Wortley deserves both our thanks and our support in his present endeavour; and he needs our support the more, because the opponents of his bill, well knowing that the sense of the House is against them, resort to the most unfair and unscrupulous means in order to obstruct it by technical impediments. Let the 15th of May administer to them an effectual rebuke.

Alpha.

At a Court of Common Council, on Thursday, the Recorder announced the receipt of a letter from Sir George Grey, communicating the news of the Queen's accouchement. The Council immediately voted by acclaim the presentation of a loyal and affectionate address to her Majesty. Mr. Bennoch submitted a motion, some time on the books, "That the Court do petition both Houses of Parliament in favour of the establishment of a system of national education." Sir Peter Laurie moved the previous question. After a few speakers had spoken, a member "took notice that there was no Court." —Adjourned.

London City Improvements.—On Thursday this measure, promoted on petition by the Corporation of London, was opened in committee. The metropolitan improvement proposed to be effected is that of making a new street, to commence on the west side of Queen-street, crossing Bow-lane, Bread-street, Friday-street, Distaff-lane, and Old 'Change, and terminating on the south side of St. Paul's-churchyard; also, to improve the west end of Gresham-street, and to widen and improve Threadneedle-street. The money for these purposes (£200,000) is proposed to be raised on bonds, at interest, on the credit of the City revenues and estates.

The Vernon Collection of Pictures is now undergoing removal from the National Gallery to Marlborough House, and will probably be exhibited to the public during the Whitsuntide holidays.

It appears from a printed Parliamentary paper that there are 190 loan societies existing, all of which, except one in Wales, are in England. The number of applications for loans in 1849 was no fewer than 69,642, of which number loans were made to 56,710.

Henceforward the sale of postage stamps of the value of 10d. and 1s. will be extended to all post-offices throughout the United Kingdom. Postmasters will make the necessary application to the General Post-office for the supply which they may require of these stamps.

The Earl of Ellesmere has gone on a cruise, in his yacht, to the Mediterranean, for the benefit of his health.

Pioneer Metropolitan Association for Burning the Dead.—On Friday evening the annual meeting of this society was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Gould-square, Crutched-friars; Mr. Nicholls in the chair. He said, that the objects of this association were to protect the living from the pestiferous exhalations of the dead, by decomposing the body by fire. It proposed to construct an edifice for a funeral pyre in the immediate vicinity of London, upon principles that will assure a combination of the greatest efficiency that science could devise. In connexion with the funeral pyre, the society intended to establish a garden for the reception of urns, tablets, and other funeral monuments; and for the erection of public tombs, in which to deposit the ashes of those who shall not be provided with urns for that purpose. Resolutions in accordance with the objects of the meeting were adopted.

Wesleyan Schoolmasters and the Committee of Council on Education.—The *Leeds Mercury* says that the Committee of Council on Education has forbidden the schoolmasters in Wesleyan schools, receiving Government money, to act either as local preachers or as class leaders, or to assist in holding a prayer-meeting. A letter from a gentleman at Callington, in Devonshire, is the authority on which this statement rests.

ANNIVERSARY MEETINGS.

CHRISTIAN INSTRUCTION SOCIETY.

The Twenty-fifth Annual Meeting of this society was held on Tuesday evening, April 30, at Finsbury Chapel, Moorfields, Alderman Kershaw, M.P., presiding. When prayer had been offered—

The Chairman, in a brief and appropriate address, opened the proceedings, in the course of which he said:—I am happy to tell you that in Manchester we have an institution of this character, which is doing a large amount of good, and raises at least £3,000 per annum, and employs, I believe, fifty-two missionaries, who are constantly engaged in proclaiming the message of salvation to the poorer classes of that city. I congratulate you on the success which has attended the labours of this institution during the past year. The design of the present meeting is to promote your zeal, and increase your efforts in behalf of this noble and valuable institution. We are not about to propose any new scheme, to launch in any new enterprise; you are engaged in an object which is not new, but which was commenced by the Saviour of mankind and his disciples some eighteen hundred years ago, and has been carried on by your society, now a quarter of a century, and we ask you to-night to sustain this institution, which must commend itself to the judgment of every philanthropic, patriotic, or Christian man. My strong conviction is, that there are thousands in glory now as the fruit of the efforts of this society [hear, hear]. Such institutions as these afford an answer to those who tauntingly ask, Whence we are seeking to promote missions to the heathen? Why don't you look at home? We are looking at home. And the more we look abroad the more we think of home too. The one is closely allied with the other [cheers].

The Rev. R. Ashton, the Secretary, read the Report, of which the following is a brief abstract:—

One hundred and five churches are united as associations with the parent society, and 2,150 Christian men and women visiting 52,105 families for the purposes of Christian instruction by book or word. Several cases are reported of persons who, in their sick and dying hours, have beheld by faith "the Lamb of God who taketh away the sin of the world," while more than thirty individuals are believed to have become genuine converts to Christ. By the personal efforts of the visitors, 2,063 children have been reclaimed from the streets, and are found in Sabbath-schools; 1,655 adults have felt the force of Christian persuasion, so as to go from the once Sabbath-neglecting homes to the house of prayer; 2,782 of the distressed, among whom are many of Christ's brethren, have had their temporal necessities relieved; and 442 copies of the Scriptures have been distributed. Four meetings for special prayer and advocacy have been held. Six new associations have been formed during the year. A Sabbath afternoon-lecture has been conducted in Fetter-lane Chapel, and two Sunday evening services have been attempted by the students of Highbury College. Three German services were held during the summer at Rotherhithe, for the benefit of the seamen belonging to German vessels. Religious services are conducted on Sabbath and on week evenings in ninety rooms and cottages in the various districts of the associations. In the Tabernacle district alone, 300 services have been held at such meetings. The tents have been much in requisition during the year, and much good has been the result of the services held in them. One hundred and fifty sermons and addresses were delivered during the season, in the tents in town and country. In the open air, too, attempts have been made to call on men to repent, and believe the gospel. On Sabbath evening, January 24th, thirty-five sermons were preached to the working classes, and on March 24th, twenty sermons were preached to the young men of London. One of the most interesting, encouraging, and successful undertakings has been the delivering of lectures to the working classes, in various halls and schools in different parts of the metropolis. 52,000 religious books have been circulated among as many families on the stations; 30,000 tracts were distributed during the visitation of the cholera, &c.

The Report closed with some devout and appropriate reflections.

John Pitman, Esq., presented the Treasurer's account, which showed a balance in favour of the society of £131 6s. 4d.

The Rev. John Aldis, of Maze Pond, moved the first resolution:—

That the Report now read be adopted, and printed for general circulation; that this meeting sincerely rejoices in the varied and successful efforts made by the Committee in behalf of the working classes, the young men, and the labouring population in general, and fervently hopes that such efforts will be continued and multiplied, believing them to be eminently calculated, with the Divine blessing, to awaken the attention of the thoughtless and irreligious inhabitants of this great city to the claims of religion and the demands of eternity; and that the following gentlemen (whose names were read) be the Committee for the year ensuing.

The Rev. George Smith, of Poplar, seconded the resolution.

Mr. Kershaw took leave of the meeting at this stage of the proceedings, to attend to business in the House of Commons, and Mr. Althans was moved to the chair.

When the collection had been made, the Rev. John Robinson, one of the Secretaries of the London City Mission, rose to move:—

That the moral and spiritual condition of London demands the prayerful consideration and exertions of the friends of the Redeemer throughout the metropolis; and this meeting would specially and earnestly entreat the churches of Christ, of every communion, therein, to employ the talents and energies of their respective members in such services as they may be able to render, and as may tend to promote the well-being of the ignorant and perishing around their own sanctuaries, as well as in more distant parts of the metropolis, the country, and the world.

Mr. Robinson, in moving the resolution, referred at some length, in very general terms, to the operations of the City Mission, classifying the population of the metropolis, pointing out the various evils with which all Christian societies had to contend and seek to remedy, and declared his belief, that the only way to get at the poorer classes was by visiting them at their homes, and concluded by cordially moving the resolution.

The Rev. John Weir, of Islington, seconded it. He referred to the various operations of the society, whose claims they were met to advocate, and characterised it as a Bible Society, a Tract Society, a Lord's-day Society, a Society for Circulating Religious Libraries, and a Sanitary Reform Society; and it was also a strictly Catholic Society. He was glad to see laymen engaged in spreading the gospel; the time was gone by when the idea obtained that this duty devolved alone upon ministers. It was not generally known that in this country—or as we understand in the London District—there were 707 missionary priests, a large number of nunneries and other adjuncts to Romanism, and that within the last six years, five grand cathedrals had been erected. Let us as Christians do our duty.

The Rev. Robert Ainslie, without a word of comment, moved the third resolution:—

That this meeting, while rendering all praise to God for the labours and success of his servants, feels it a duty not to overlook their claims on its gratitude for the efforts they have so cheerfully and disinterestedly made in behalf of the society; and would hereby express its grateful sense of the value of those manifold services rendered by their esteemed Secretary, John Pitman, Esq., by those ministers, students, and gentlemen, who have delivered sermons, lectures, and addresses in chapels and halls—in schools and rooms—in the open air, and in tents, during the past year, and by the numerous secretaries and members of associations, in their local efforts and domiciliary visitations, and would earnestly entreat their continued co-operation in prayers and efforts for the purification and happiness of the entire metropolitan and suburban community.

The Rev. John Gill, of Witham, seconded it, contending that it was not by the Established Church, or by political reform, but only by religion, that society could be regenerated and blessed.

Mr. Pitman then moved a vote of thanks to both the Chairmen, which was seconded by Mr. Ashton, and acknowledged by Mr. Althans; and after singing the Doxology, the meeting dispersed.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held on Wednesday, at Exeter-hall, when the Earl of Harrowby presided, supported, amongst others, by the American Minister (Mr. Lawrence), the Marquis of Cholmondeley, Mr. Plumptre, M.P., the Bishop of Norwich, Sir T. D. Acland, M.P., the Rev. F. Close, and Rev. Dr. Bunting.

The Rev. A. Brandram, the Secretary, read a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury, of which the following is an extract:—

Increasing years, in addition to increasing occupations, prevent my attendance at such meetings; but they do not diminish my interest in the society, which I trust may continue to enjoy the same measure of blessing which has hitherto been granted to it, and maintain its privilege of disseminating that Word which, in proportion as it is made the rule of faith and practice, will form the safeguard of the nation and the Church.

The Secretary then proceeded to read the Report, but as the document was very lengthy, and comprehended many details concerning the operations of the society in all quarters of the globe, we can only extract a few of its principal features. After a remark that the course of the society during the past year had been marked by many tokens of Divine favour, which demanded our gratitude and thanks giving, the Report proceeded. The work of the society had been carried on in the face of many difficulties and obstacles, arising out of political and ecclesiastical jealousy; but notwithstanding these impediments, the society had issued from their depôt at Paris 108,338 copies of the Holy Scriptures, making an aggregate of copies distributed in that country since 1820 of 2,728,968 copies [cheering]. The Report then went on to show the number of copies distributed by the society in Belgium, Holland, Cologne, Baden, Bavaria, Hesse Cassell, Hesse Darmstadt, Nassau, Bremen, Wurtemberg, and various parts of Germany and Hungary, in Switzerland, and in Rome, Turin, Florence, Tuscany, and most parts of Italy. Upon Italy the committee looked sadly but hopefully; and the result of two visits, by one of their agents, was a sale of 12,000 copies of the Scriptures. In December last Pope Pius had addressed a letter to his archbishops and bishops at Rome repeating his condemnation of Bible Societies, and upon the return of the Pope to his capital the copies of the Italian Testament printed by the society at Rome would have been seized, but they were placed for safe custody in the possession of the American Consul there [hear, hear]. The present obstacles in Italy the committee regarded as but temporary, and expressed their conviction that the gospel would be spread all over that peninsula [hear, hear]. Among the facilities granted by foreign powers to the operations of the society, those granted by the King of Sweden were favourably noticed in the Report, and the committee also recorded their obligation to the Emperor of Russia, who on one occasion had remitted Customs duties amounting to £300 on an import of copies of the Bible, and had given permission to bring in 20,000 copies free of duty [cheers]. At Malta, the distribution of copies had been 12,925. The revision of the Greek Scriptures had been accomplished. The Report then went on to show the success which had attended the efforts to spread abroad the Word of God by the society in Jerusalem, Caffreland, the north of India, China, Australia, the islands of the Pacific, the Cape of Good Hope, Sierra Leone, the West Indies, and various other parts of the world. The committee next announced that his Royal Highness Prince Albert had constituted himself a life governor of the institution by a donation of £50 [much cheering].

The following is the financial part of the Report:—"The entire receipts of the year ending March 30th, 1850, amount to £91,634 12s. 7d. The receipts applicable to the general purposes of the society have amounted to £45,449 11s. 1d., including 31,413 1s. 7d. free contributions from Auxiliary Societies, and £1,314 8s. 2d. additional subscriptions to the Special Fund in aid of the extended circulation of the Scriptures on the Continent. The amount received for Bibles and Testaments is £46,185 1s. 6d., being an increase of £2,826 9s. 8d. on this item. The issues of the society for the year are as follows:—From the depôt at home, 783,203; from depôts abroad, 353,492; total, 1,136,695 copies. The total issues of the society now amount to 23,110,050 copies. The expenditure during the past year has amounted to £97,246 2s., being £8,415 0s. 10d. over the previous year. The society is under engagements to the extent of £63,555 18s. 2d."

The Bishop of Norwich moved the adoption of the Report in an eloquent and effective address. After paying a just tribute to the merits of his venerable predecessor, Bishop Stanley; he concluded by saying,—let them send the Bible to Spain, India, China, New Zealand, Rome; but the object that ought to be nearest to the heart, and above all things to excite their zeal and enthusiasm, was the circulation of the Bible in England [cheers].

His Excellency the American Minister seconded the resolution [cheers]. We of the United States feel under the deepest obligation to this parent Bible Society of the world [cheers]. I am the more bold in saying this, because I am connected with the American Bible Society, and have the honour to be one of its Vice-presidents. The American Bible Society is twelve years younger than its parent; and that society, with the entire people of the Union, look to this parent society for example as well as precept. I believe the Bible—[cheers]—every word of it; and therefore I believe it will circulate throughout the world. I look at the Bible as a great charter of religious liberty [cheers]. It is the Magna Charta of our freedom. I believe that no free Government can stand without it is founded on the precepts of the Bible; and no despotic Government can stand because of the Bible [great applause]. I speak now of Great Britain. You live under a Government, to a certain extent founded upon public opinion. It is a free Government; it is a Government of the people. And I live, too, under a Government founded upon public opinion, whose laws, religion, and character were drawn from this country; but without the Bible the Government would be a rope of sand. It is said that religion in England is supported by the State; I say that the State is supported by religion—[loud applause]—and I know that the great Republic in the West would not stand an hour without the sanction of the Bible [cheers]. What, then, my Lord, is the duty of Christians? If it be true that this is the great Charter by which we are to live, and by which we are to die, what becomes the duty of every Christian man and every Christian woman? I say it is their duty to place this book in the hands of every human being that can read [cheers]. And if you have those amongst you who cannot read, it is your duty to teach them to read [cheers].

The Chairman was about to put the resolution to the meeting for adoption, when Mr. Luke Hansard rose to propose an amendment relative to the rate of wages paid to the binders.

The Chairman put it to the meeting whether so large an audience were competent to deal with the subject, who decided that the amendment was irrelevant. The original motion was put and carried, with but two dissentients.

Captain Pakenham was introduced by the Secretary as "the expelled of Tuscany" [hear, hear]. The gallant captain, on coming forward, said he was an Irishman, lately returned from Italy [cheers]. "The Lord reigneth!" Thus began the Report: let his voice, and their voice, call upon the whole earth to be glad and rejoice because the Lord reigneth [cheers]. It was the high and great mission of the Bible Society to make that fact known, that the Lord reigneth, and that his distinctive name is, "God is love." Many of the audience would probably be amused were he to relate many things that he could relate in reference to his own experience of late; but he had received a caution from the Secretary, to mind what it was that he said; and, therefore, he would try to be a well-behaved Irishman for once [laughter and cheers]. In the early part of last year what a munificent grant from that society was entrusted to his hands for the spread of the word of God at Florence and Rome. It was a memorable fact, that when the Pope left Rome they could print the Scriptures, but when the Pope came back the Scriptures must be locked up [hear, hear]. Pope Pius IX. had had a great deal of advice given to him; he would give him a little more, which was this,—"Keep your hands off the Consul of America" [loud cheers]. The Pope had better not meddle with the Consul for several reasons [cheers]; and one was, because the United States would not allow it [hear]. It was in the beginning of January last year, that a New Testament was printed at Florence, and it might seem strange to Englishmen who consented to be guided by common sense, that an infallible Pope gave his sanction to it, and another infallible Pope sent to seize it [hear, hear]. This had actually been done in relation to the New Testament, which was printed as he had said, and for distribution among the people, but was now at the top story of a house, of which the bottom was a prison. These Testaments were carried away from his house to the place where they now are, by a common policeman, who con-

sidered himself a mighty great character while doing the work, which was quite fittingly done in the night. This man interrogated the servant whether there were any more such books in his master's house; to which the servant replied, "I think you had better ask my master himself; you say the book is very bad, then the writer must be very bad! you had better imprison him!" This insolent and foolish man became silent, as well he might. When this edition of the New Testament was in course of publication, some of the workmen employed on it were convinced of its excellency, and as a great favour they solicited a copy to read at their homes; and though this large edition of a beautiful New Testament was not permitted to be published, these men possessed a copy each, and there was reason to hope it was read by them. For the printing of these books the captain must be called to an interrogatory, which means that he should be requested to criminate himself. Wishing to make very short work of it, he said at once, "Yes, I am the culprit," and delivered himself to meet his enemies before any Tuscan tribunal, and have the whole thing out. This resolve of the captain's was made known to the Government—but what did they say? Most strangely, they came to this decision: "There is no fault to find with the captain, we will have him for a witness on our side;" and so when the time came the captain was then summoned to witness for the enemies of the truth. They thought the poor printers would be crushed more easily than the captain, and because the latter was connected with the British and Foreign Bible Society, which stood at his back, which, as had been well said, was the Bible Society of the world [cheers]. The captain determined that the printers should not be crushed [hear, hear], but should be defended. Tuscan law should be applied to the uttermost. It pleased Providence to direct him to a very superior Tuscan lawyer, and when he got into the court he told them some home-truths, declaring that the law which prohibited the printing of Bibles did not apply to Tuscany—it did not and should not cross the Tuscan frontier [hear]. This learned Tuscan lawyer, after having presented the law of the case, turned to a common-sense view of it, pointing out the inconsistency of having the churches beautified with paintings of Scripture scenes and characters, which the people were taught to kneel to and admire, if not to adore, and yet deny them that book from whence the ideal of them was derived [hear, hear]. "What," said he, in beautiful Italian, "submit the word of God to the censure of man! Absurdity, contradiction, impiety!" [loud cheers.] Who would not receive these sentiments with all their hearts? This blessed word of our God is full of love; hear him saying, "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He must be a wretched and wicked man, be he Pope or anybody else, who should censure that and keep such a blessed invitation from the people. However, the cause went against the captain and the Bible; the expenses of the court were only 1s. 6d.; fine, 50 dollars. Not satisfied with the decision of this court, an appeal was made to a higher tribunal, the captain thinking it would do no harm to discuss the matter over again. As the former turned out so well, there was hope that this might turn out better; and thus it proved, the superior court reversed the decision of the inferior court [loud cheers]. So that they did not do amiss there [hear, hear]. But they were to have another discussion yet in another court. He would very much like to be there if possible, for the purpose of putting a little pepper and salt upon it [laughter and cheers]. If they were treated fairly and justly, even according to the law of the State in such matters, he had no doubt that the Testaments which were now in the custody of the American Consul, would be allowed to be freely circulated [hear, hear]. After referring to his expulsion, and the very proper manner in which his case had been taken up by the British Government, and expressing a hope that, as a servant of the Queen and an Englishman, justice would be done him, the gallant captain sat down amid the applause of the meeting.

The Marquis of CHOLMONDELEY seconded the resolution, and it was further supported by the Rev. Dr. ARCHER, of Oxendon Chapel, in a speech as remarkable for its liberality of spirit as its eloquence and force.

The resolution was carried unanimously, as were four others of a complimentary character, the advocacy of which occupied the meeting for some hours.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

The annual meeting was held at Exeter-hall, on Thursday evening last, the 2nd inst. The Hall, as usual, was densely thronged. S. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., presided, and the proceedings commenced at six o'clock by singing the hymn—

"Kindred in Christ, for his dear sake," &c.

The Rev. Dr. Cox then offered prayer, after which

The CHAIRMAN rose and said—My dear Christian friends, permit me to say how great an honour I esteem it to be permitted to preside amongst you this evening. I consider that ours may well be called a real Evangelical Alliance—[hear]—may it long continue to be so [cheers]. The Sunday-school has not inaptly been called the nursery for the Church, and I might appeal to many around me who are pastors of churches, and who would, with grateful satisfaction, testify that it has been their right hand, and that to its instrumentality they owe many of the successes with which the Lord has been pleased to bless their labours. I have often been much struck in looking over the obituaries of ministers and missionaries, to find how many have traced their first religious impressions to the Sabbath-school [hear]. Such a testimony is the impress of God's blessing upon our work in no small degree. I may say that I have been pleased to find that in connexion with your efforts, the committee of the Union have deemed it to be very important to aid the establishment of well-arranged libraries in every school [hear]. Those of you who mix much in society are aware of the fearful extent to which cheap publications of a baneful tendency are issued, and will see that their evil effects are to be counteracted very much by those libraries which you are using, and by which you may reasonably expect to reach and benefit many who are outside the circle of your labours in the Sabbath-school [hear]. It is most important that your committee should have aid in this matter, and I trust that this night we shall not only have a happy meeting, but that we shall do all in our power to strengthen their hands and enable them to do much more than they have yet attempted.

Mr. W. H. WATSON then read the Report:—

It referred to the foreign operations of the Union, giving accounts of the assistance granted to schools in Denmark, Germany, Palestine, Western Africa, South Africa, Australia, the South Sea Islands, and the West Indies. Two applications for building grants had been complied with; 120 grants had been made of lending libraries; while 56 country unions had subscribed to the funds of the Union in London.

The benevolent income of the Union has kept pace with its necessities. The subscriptions and donations have considerably increased, and the total received from all sources has amounted to £1,269 13s. 9½d.; the expenditure to £1,251 9s. 6d. With a view to afford more time for making up the trade account of the Union, it has been found desirable to make it up to the 31st December in each year, instead of the 31st March, as heretofore. The sales during those nine months have amounted to £6,595 15s. 8d., showing an increase of £174 9s. 2d. over the corresponding period of the previous year.

STATISTICS.

The following is the last return of the numbers of schools, teachers, and scholars, within a circle of five miles from the General Post Office, as reported last year:—

AUXILIARIES.	SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	SCHOLARS.
South	107	2,170	21,177
East.....	124	2,573	25,055
West	130	2,421	23,733
North	142	3,044	30,070
	503	10,207	100,075

Upwards of 120 schools have made no report, and if the numbers contained in those schools are in proportion to those which have been reported, the grand total will be—schools, 623; teachers, 12,642; scholars, 123,949.

Reference was then made to the proceedings of the committee with reference to postal labour on the Lord's-day, and the Report continued as follows:—Statements are sometimes made and figures paraded which would almost lead to a conclusion that Sunday-schools have been an entire failure, if not something worse—that the only result of the teacher's labours had been to train up the profligate, the drunkard, and the thief. With such statements the committee have no sympathy; in such figures they have no confidence. The great subject of the teacher's instruction is, that "the grace of God, which bringeth salvation, hath appeared unto all men, teaching them that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, they should live righteously, soberly, and godly in this present evil world." And is it possible that such truths can lead to evil? The committee would not discourage any effort to promote the social or moral condition of men, but if such efforts are to be a substitute for the gospel, in its simplicity and its pureness, or even to come on a level with it, they must avow their want of confidence in them. It is the gospel which is designed to regenerate the world; and the heart which, by Divine mercy, receives it, professes the principles which will work out into all that can sanctify and adorn the character. And the committee rejoice in the evidences continually brought before them of the moral and spiritual benefits resulting from the exertions of their fellow-labourers.

The Rev. C. STOVEL moved the first resolution (for which, and the following, see advertisement) in a speech of solemn and wise counsel to Sunday-school teachers, on the manner in which they should prosecute their work. Do not (he said) make the favourite topics of your teaching to consist in all, or indeed in the promiscuous and indiscriminate mass of the truths which are received from God, and so connected with man. There are many truths of scripture which might be well studied by your children in after life; but the business of your occupation is to consider in what point of view the consciousness of God may be awakened in these children adapted to their present state and present necessities. What is it they want now? My impression is, that the communications of God relating to his mercy, his love, and his fatherly character, are especially the topics which it is your duty to dwell upon. Teach that boy who comes to you in rags, whose consciousness of guilt is stamped upon his countenance, and who, as he comes to the school, trembles at the thought of the policeman,—say to him, "I mourn over your condition, but it is not necessary that you should be lost; there is a Father in Heaven who pities you; he has made provision to meet your case though you are guilty; yet there is mercy with God, though your path may be dark; if you will but say to him, 'My Father, be thou the guide of my youth,' you shall have hope—yes my boy, even thou—it shall penetrate thy soul and make thee strong to bear adversity; and thou shalt rise like the sun that has passed through a mist which beclouded his early dawning, and perhaps, with the energy which mercy shall give thee, dispel the gloom which beshrouds thy first appearance." These thoughts will lead you to others which gather round them. I wish to point you to one or two examples strikingly illustrative of the certainty of attaining the end I have placed before you. I know that it is very often said, that the children cannot conceive of this or that. To all such statements I cannot help presenting in answer the recollections of my own mind. I am persuaded that, at the age of eight and a half years, I had as clear a perception of the vicarious sacrifice of my Redeemer on behalf of sinful men as I have now. I felt that I had then an intense love for that Redeemer, which, though it passed through many intervals of experience afterwards, emerged at length with vastly different features, stamped with the cares of life, and perhaps prepared to bear something of the storms of adversity. The life which one leads now is nothing more than the results of the moral elements which were imbued into one's heart then; and I have heard of a minister occupying an important position in this metropolis, saying—and there are many who will be prepared to affirm the truth—that those recollections are among the sweetest which could engage the heart when called to the sternest duties of manhood, and made to bear the bitterest sorrows connected with the service of God. I could name such a one as Mann, who was formerly a hard-handed, but warm-hearted, labourer with yourselves. He was no mean man in his time; and we may speak of him now, for he has passed to his rest. He was the fruit of Sabbath-school instruction, in one of the rudest spots of England, among the mining districts of the north. That man was not only lifted from the Sunday-school form to the church, but he returned, after the lapse of years, to the place where he studied his lessons, and there, with great dignity to himself, and advantage to thousands, administered the holy gospel as a minister of Jesus Christ [cheers]. I might also refer to such a man as Knibb [loud cheers]. And I cannot forget the moment when one had to move with him in scenes which realized their results in this hall when he who, in former years at Kettering a slender, modest, retiring boy, scarcely half-conscious that he was, certainly not conscious of what he was, receiving from his mother that manly spirit which always flowed within his breast, rose up and passed as a teacher into Jamaica. There he glanced over the scenes of its sufferings and sorrows; stood upon the gallows on which Sam Sharpe was hung, and retired in awful determination. He came to England, stood where I now stand, and dashed the slave-irons on the floor [tremendous cheers]. I carried those irons home, and preserve them in my museum as more precious than gold. He returned to Jamaica, and found the spot, at midnight, where poor Sam—an innocent man wrongly judged—was interred: he disinterred his bones, and brought them back; rebuilt the site where they used to worship, and he lies now buried before the pulpit in the chapel at Montego Bay. Nor was it in resolution like this alone, in a quiet way—in a way which has no parallel in the history of the world—in point of time and character, he accomplished a revolution in that island—a revolution without blood—by the love of Christ, the love of freedom, and the influence of Divine truth [cheers]. He laid his bones upon that soil, and Jamaica never can be again what Jamaica was when he found it [loud cheers]. He was a Sabbath-school boy, and he has left many thousand Sabbath-school scholars and teachers to hand down to future generations, through diversities, and toil, and trial, the blessings which he first received, and then handed out to them. I would entreat you, therefore, to consider that that moral consciousness which is needful for your victory must be aimed at; and I would say, let it be the one defined object towards the accomplishment of which sacrifice all sectarian points; to it bow all class attachments: let it be your object, come what will, to make those children study their Bibles as in God's presence, to receive his communications as though they heard him speak; to make them respond to them with the vivacity which they show in their other pursuits; labour to make them alive to God, and then you may trust them to God; and though some of them may pass through many trials, you need not fear, for God will be their guide. And yourselves, also: you may trust. Only live in communication with the Spirit that promises, and then, you living in that Spirit, and they learning in that Spirit, will be vitalized with His energy, and at last gathered together in one eternal rest [loud cheers].

Mr. EDWARD CORDEROY seconded the resolution. After enumerating the different classes of engagements to which that Hall was devoted, he observed—But of all the audiences gathered within these walls perhaps that of the Sunday-school Union is the most interesting and important. Not that the work of Christian Missions and the circulation of the Book of God are not of the very highest class of efforts, but that the audiences they command are but mere spectators of the work, while that of to-night comprises the Institution itself [cheers]. You are something more than spectators, you are the agents and workmen of the society itself [hear]. How important is the character of those who labour, Sabbath after Sabbath, within the walls of the schoolroom, regarded as the agency by which principles are instilled, habits are formed, morals are inculcated, religion taught to thousands and tens of thousands of children. What a high and solemn interest, then, invests this audience. You, Sunday after Sunday, my friends, labour in the formation of character; you are stamping the mental and moral image which you yourselves bear, on thousands of young minds and hearts. I echo, therefore, the sentiment of the Report, "How important is the personal character of the Sunday-school teacher" [hear]. It is a glorious thing that we have the Bible in our schools—that silent but Divine teacher, the unfailing oracle, the unerring guide—but the

Bible in every school, the teacher will yet be its interpreter. You may come to this hall, and hear "Israel in Egypt," and feel the truthfulness with which the genius of Handel has invested the sufferings of that people in bondage, and of that triumphant joy which fills them when redeemed from their captivity; but the whole may be murdered by a bad orchestra. You want then to interpret Handel, who shall be imbued with Handel's spirit, understand his theme, and thus be a fitting communication between the spirit of the mighty dead, and the intelligent living. Just so is it with the best and holiest of books in the world—the only and altogether Inspired Volume. Doctrine and precept, narrative and poetry, parable and prophecy, are all there in beautiful harmony; but even that Bible may be defective, if you have not a properly-qualified teacher. Next to a pious, intelligent, generous agency, the chief requisite is a sound and healthy system of instruction, and a firm, kind, consistent discipline [hear]. The thanks of teachers are indeed due to this society for the valuable list of lessons, and the brief but valuable notes on the lessons which it publishes [hear]. But lest men competent to walk should content themselves too much with crutches, I would urge upon you to seek from the Bible and mutual instruction class for teachers, to obtain information for yourselves. Respecting discipline, I need say but little, because I believe that all schools have rules, and most of them good ones; and as a manager of Sunday-schools, I would say, it is much better to keep rules than to try to alter them—but if capable of amendment, let them be very carefully altered. Depend upon it, the advice of John Wesley holds good on this point, "Do not strive to alter any rules, but endeavour to keep them." The motto of Sunday-school teachers ought to be system, punctuality, and perseverance [cheers].

The resolution having been adopted, a hymn was sung and the collection made.

The Rev. Dr. Archer moved the second resolution, in a speech which was much applauded.

The Rev. S. G. Green, of Taunton, seconded the resolution, expressing his gratification that the attention of the committee was being directed to the subject of senior classes. He thought that the Church was chargeable with neglect in time past in reference to this interesting department of Sunday-school labour. They had permitted the saplings in the nursery, just when they needed the most tender care and solicitude, to be exposed to the influence of the spoiler. The only way in which they could be met, was by the maintenance of classes in which the work begun in the regular school routine should be continued, so that it might form, as it were, a natural bridge from the school to the Church, along which the fostering care and affection of the teacher should be the guide all the way. He believed the Union was doing a great work in this and other portions of the field of labour, and when the historian recorded the influences of the present era, the fact more than any other would shine forth clear and bright upon the surface, that the nineteenth century, and the land of the English, witnessed the growth, development, and successes, of the Sunday-school institution.

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

The Rev. R. Hamilton, of Barbican Chapel, moved the next resolution; and in the course of his brief remarks showed, that the Sunday-school Union was a real Evangelical Alliance, Christian Instruction, Pastoral Aid, National Defence, and Reform Society, and Preparatory College for the Gospel Ministry.

The Rev. W. Groser seconded the resolution, which was cordially adopted.

The Rev. G. Rose, of Bermondsey, proposed, and Mr. Watson seconded, a vote of thanks to the chair, which having been carried, presented, and acknowledged, a hymn was sung, and the meeting separated.

RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

The fifty-first annual meeting of this society was held at Exeter Hall, on Friday evening last. The Hon. Arthur Kinnaird took the chair at six o'clock, and the proceedings commenced with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Henderson, one of the Secretaries.

The Chairman, in his opening address, said, that a society which had been so long known, and which had been so honoured of God in this and other countries, would need very few remarks from him. The little attention which he had been able to give to the observance of its operations had endeared it a hundred-fold to his heart; and he candidly confessed that, though in other societies with which he was connected he had seen many of the benefits which the Religious Tract Society conferred, he had not till recently had any conception of its bearings for good in various quarters of the globe. There were a few prominent points which he would bring before them, to show the value of such an institution; and, first, he would draw attention to the fact of the enormous circulation of works of an altogether different tendency to those issued by that society. It appeared that in this country there were no less than ten stamped newspapers of a decidedly infidel tendency, whose circulation amounted to 11,700,000. Of unstamped publications of a similar class, there were six, with a circulation of 6,240,000. Of miscellaneous publications, no less than 10,400,000; and of the worst class of all, there were 520,000 copies sold; making a total of 28,000,000 annually [hear, hear]. Could they conceive of anything more frightful than that, or could they bring any stronger argument forward to support the claims of that society. He was happy to say that, from the commencement of its operations, it had issued 500,000,000 of these little "messengers of mercy" [loud cheers]. This fact, whilst it should cause them to lift up their hearts with grateful acknowledgment to Almighty God, should yet point out to them the truth, that they had not as yet nearly overtaken the evil [hear]. The books and tracts of the society had been printed in 110 different languages and dialects, and it had been the means of affording large and important services to every other association for good. What would such societies as the London City Mission do but for the invaluable assistance which the the Tract Society rendered? It was gratifying to know that, during the past year, they had circulated a larger number of tracts, by means of their missionaries, than in any previous year of their existence [cheers]. Another fact which it was important to bear in mind, because some misconception had arisen on the subject, was, that, although their benevolent receipts from 1799 to 1849, a period of fifty years, had been £174,167, the whole of that sum had been expended in their home and foreign operations, and no portion whatever in the trading operations of the society, or in any of its expenses [hear]. He urged upon their friends to become possessors of the history of the society, which was published in a volume, and called, "The Jubilee Memorial." If every one would only take the pains to read that work, or even to glance over some of its leading features, he felt persuaded it would tend much to deepen their interest in its affairs. He could only confess his fault, that, from circumstances, he omitted to subscribe to the Jubilee Fund, and hoped that any who were in the same condition would follow his example, and afford some contribution to it even now [hear]. The next fact to which he adverted was, that the society had, within the last few years, granted more than nine thousand libraries to various societies [cheers]. At the present moment, there was a very valuable field opened to them in providing "servants' libraries," consisting of proper books for perusal in families. The society had come forward and made a valuable selection, and, for a small sum, the subscribers and friends could furnish to the domestics of their families admirable food for the Sabbath and other days. It was also interesting to notice the effort about to be made to supply the sister country with tracts suitable for this particular period [hear]. All present, he trusted, did take a deep interest in unhappy Ireland, which had been visited by severe affliction, and was now only just recovering from that dreadful famine. From all accounts he had heard, the people were ready to receive instruction, and it was a matter of sincere thankfulness that the Tract Society had turned its attention to the peculiar position of Ireland, and were prepared to supply appropriate tracts, and also to employ agents as *colporteurs*; a system which had been tried successfully by the Bible Society in foreign parts [cheers]. Another point he alluded to was the inadequacy of the society's funds. He had thought till lately that the income was almost equal to its wants; but he now found it was quite otherwise. This was a most momentous consideration. The openings which presented themselves on every side were rapidly increasing. Attached as he was to the Evangelical Alliance, he believed that it was by unions in effort that they would most clearly exhibit to the world the excellency of religion, and he believed that its influence would re-act upon their individual souls.

Mr. Jones read an abstract of the Report:—

It gave a rapid sketch of the society's operations during the year, in the printing and distribution of religious publications through the agency of the institution, in various parts of the earth—France, Brittany, Spain, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Germany, Corinthia, Bohemia, Hungary, Bavaria, Saxony, Hamburg, Frankfort, Switzerland, Italy, Malta, Corfu, Greece, Russia, the East Indies, Ceylon, China, the South Seas, New Zealand, Madagascar, Australia, Van Diemen's Land, South, North, and West Africa, Spanish America, the United States, Canada, and the West Indies. The Report then noticed the liberal response that had been made to the appeal on behalf of the Jubilee Fund; and also the preparation of the Juvenile Volume, as well as the deaths of the Rev. E. Bickersteth, and other devoted friends of the society. It next stated that the Rev. W. W. Champneys, M.A., rector of St. Mary's, Whitechapel, had kindly undertaken the office of Clerical Secretary, in succession to the Rev. R. Monro, who had retired, from ill health. It further detailed the operations of the society in Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and England. In reference to which countries it was reported that the grants made to District Visiting, City and Town Missions, Christian Instruction, and kindred societies, for Sabbath-day circulation, soldiers, sailors, emigrants, inmates of prisons, hospitals, and union-houses, railway workmen, fairs, races, and foreigners in England, Home Missionary agents, convict ships, colliers, and miscellaneous objects, amounted to 3,133,165 publications, of the value of £3,302 15s. 1d. The libraries granted for destitute districts, schools, National and British schoolmasters, and union-houses, amounted to 657. The issues from the Depository during the year have been 19,245,441; making the total circulation at home and abroad amount to about 523,000,000, in about 110 languages. The benevolent income has amounted to £5,094 6s. 2d.; the grants to £8,150 8s. 6d. being £3,056 beyond the gratuitous receipts; the legacies have been £847; and the amount received for sales, £49,586 5s. 9d. The society's total receipts, including the sales, £61,327 8s. 8d.; being an increase on the previous year of £1,832 5s. 5d. The Report concluded by earnestly impressing upon the friends of the society the necessity for enlarged and persevering efforts in the circulation of religious publications.

The Rev. W. Robinson, of Christ Church, Chelsea, moved the first resolution:—

That the Report, an abstract of which has been read, together with the Treasurer's account, be received and printed; that the gentlemen, whose names will be read, be the officers and committee for the ensuing year, with power to fill up all vacancies; and that the meeting sincerely rejoices in the liberal contributions to the Jubilee Fund, presents its thanks to all the donors, and trusts that, from this time, enlarged efforts will be made to augment the regular income to the society.

Mr. Plumptre, M.P., seconded the resolution. He had often admired the great wisdom and faithfulness which had appeared to characterise the proceedings of that society. There had been no deviation from truth, no compromise of principle, while a blessed catholic spirit had manifested itself in all its operations. It was one of those happy associations in which they could meet together, and labour together, for the glory of their common Redeemer, and endeavour to promote the spiritual and eternal welfare of their fellow-creatures, still retaining all their peculiar predilections and feelings. He trusted that, notwithstanding their little differences of opinion, they were prepared to subscribe that a Christian is the highest style of man [cheers].

The Rev. Dr. Barth, from Wirtemberg, supported the resolution. He said it was with peculiar feelings that one who came from Germany beheld how orderly the works of faith and love were being carried on in this country, while in his unhappy land there was so much disturbance. Among the trades which had suffered, in consequence of those disruptions, none had been so much affected as the book trade. Their books were lying in the stalls, and many valuable periodicals were obliged to be discontinued for want of subscribers. Even their own society, which he represented, had not sold so many copies of books in the last two years as it had previously done in a single year. Only one of their publications was selling, and that was the "Bible Stories" [hear]. That work had reached the seventy-second edition of five thousand copies each [cheers]. It struck him, when he saw the lamps in that hall, that just as when the night came on the place seemed to grow brighter, so should it be with those societies which were formed to scatter the light of truth amidst the darkness of the world—they must get clearer as the midnight approached, when the Bridegroom would come, even the Lord Jesus Christ [cheers].

The resolution having been adopted,

The Rev. R. Bickersteth, of Clapham, then addressed the meeting. He regarded it as a peculiar privilege to be allowed to take any part in that great anniversary. He esteemed the Tract Society as one of those great Evangelical institutions which are the best bulwarks and brightest ornaments of our beloved land. He related how serviceable he had found the productions of the Tract Society in the system of domiciliary visitation adopted in his parish, and the blessing of God had attended the labours of the distributors. He proceeded to say, that, partially from a want of acquaintance with the principles of the society, and partially from prejudice, objections had been raised to the Tract Society. It had been said, they ought to carry the Bible with them, and make that the great instrument with which to combat the evils in the world. The friends of that society were not opposed to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures [hear]—so far from it, the Tract Society was in reality a Bible Society also [cheers]. The objection would never arise from one who was practically acquainted with the work. Those who were engaged in efforts for good knew that they could not do with a tract what they could not do with the Scriptures, while the reading of a tract had often led to the subsequent perusal of the Word of God [hear]. Another objection which had been made to it was, that it did not distinctively advocate any ecclesiastical system. He quite granted it. Neither Churchman nor Dissenter could go to its publications and find that particular form of Church discipline enforced to which he was attached, and on which they differed, but both Churchman and Dissenter might find in them those distinguishing evangelical truths which they both loved, and on which they were both agreed [cheers]—these were most clearly and powerfully advocated there. He rejoiced to think that it had not been deemed right by the committee to advocate any ecclesiastical system, whilst they had regarded it as all-important, that every tract they circulated should be so infused with evangelical truth, and contain so clear a statement of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, that no person should be able to read that tract without being able to learn from it the way of salvation. He concluded by moving the following resolution:—

That, while the success which has hitherto attended the society's operations at home, in our colonies, and in foreign lands, should call forth humble thanksgivings to God, it should also lead to more active measures for counteracting error and maintaining the great fundamental truths of the gospel by means of the Christian press.

The Rev. W. Farebrother seconded the resolution, observing, that every thoughtful, intelligent man would admit that the greatest danger to any nation was to have in its midst a sturdy race of irreligious men. Six years ago he made an appeal to the board of that society for a grant of books, to take out as a missionary library, and that request was liberally responded to. When far out at sea, the vessel in which he sailed was wrecked, and everything was lost but the Bible of the Tract Society, which he took under his arm as he stepped into the boat. Often did he refer to its pages to assure himself, as trouble after trouble came on, that that one promise was left—"Lo! I am with you alway." When he reached the great city in China, to which he was appointed, his soul wept at the abominations of idolatry, and frequently, as he stood beneath the shade of their sumptuous temples, when the rites of their superstitious worship were perpetrated, he longed to preach to them of Jesus; but he knew not their language. He therefore resorted to the distribution of the tracts of this society, and for his labours in this way gained for himself among the natives the title of "the honourable diffuser of

virtue." (He related one or two pleasing incidents connected with his missions, as illustrating the eagerness of the Chinese to grasp at instruction, and then continued.) The Chinese have something analogous to Tract Societies among themselves; for it is not an uncommon thing for a man who has succeeded in business, or become possessed of wealth, to go to the priest, and get him to select some portions from the writings of Confucius, which he has cut in blocks, and published by subscription. China, he further observed, possessed extraordinary facilities for the operations of the Tract Society. Its singularly written language, with its 80,000 characters, was understood in all the great provinces of the empire, notwithstanding the different dialects which prevailed in each; and of the four hundred millions of its inhabitants he believed that from one hundred and twenty to one hundred and fifty millions were readers. The cost of labour in that country was so trifling, that they could print a translation of the New Testament for 2¼d. In a packet recently received at the Mission-house was enclosed a copy of "Dick's Solar System"—a book published in England for 8s. 6d., and which had been translated into Chinese, published with all its beautiful diagrams, and sold for one penny sterling. Mr. Farebrother then gave some interesting information respecting the mission at Shangai; and, in particular, stated that the missionaries had employed persons to go into the tea shops at night where the people usually assembled to hear some novel or romance, and there to read and distribute the publications of the Religious Tract Society.

The resolution having been adopted,

The Rev. Dr. ARCHER proposed the following:—

That the meeting has heard, with much satisfaction, that upwards of 9,000 libraries have been granted by the society, on very reduced terms, to our colonies, destitute districts in Great Britain and Ireland, Sunday and day schools, union houses, prisons, soldiers and sailors; and that the friends of the institution be recommended to promote the formation of similar libraries in their different districts, believing them well adapted for usefulness among all our people.

There was a kind of truth in much of the literature of the day he did not deny, but it was truth which concealed the absence of the highest truth; there was no distinct and positive error in the bold and daring assertions of Infidelity and Socinianism; but what he lamented was, that the writers did not mingle the waters of their imaginations with the streams which flowed from the living God. All literature, to be beneficial morally and lastingly, must appeal to positive principle. His heart wanted something which mere negation could never meet; as an immortal being he panted for immortality; as responsible, he wanted something by virtue of which that responsibility could be discharged; he would have to stand at the judgment-seat of the great God, and he needed some robe in which he could be covered and invested, when he appeared amidst that mighty group, numerous as the leaves of the forest; as a sinner, he wanted blood to cleanse his nature; corrupt in heart, he must have a spirit to purify, and no literature under heaven, no learning, no skill, no eloquence, no poetry, nothing could meet that state of things, short of the literature of the sanctuary of God himself. What he wanted to see was, the literature of the day spiritualized. He did not ask for theological symbolism, or German mysticism—they had had too much of that already; and he believed it never had, never would, carry a soul to heaven. Its wings were too gossamer to support an eternal, imperishable soul. Nor did they want the Pantheistic speculations of a Carlyle or an Emerson; but what they wanted was, robust, yet transparent, spiritual truth—a literature which, in every case, would bring out Christ; so cheap, that it is within every man's reach, and so clear and distinct, that it would captivate and attract all to whom it came. The ground upon which he supported that institution was, that it cultivated such literature and such learning as that [cheers]. To meet the infidel publications of the day, they must act upon the principle of Lord Bacon, and dislodge darkness by light, error by truth, hell by heaven.

The Rev. C. KEMBLE, of St. Michael's, Stockwell, seconded the motion, tendering his testimony to those already given of the value of the society's operations. The resolution then passed unanimously.

WILLIAM GURNEY HOARE, Esq., moved, and the Rev. J. SHERMAN seconded, the two following resolutions:—

That an efficient means of making known the gospel in Great Britain and Ireland is the circulation of evangelical publications by pious *colporteurs*; and this meeting earnestly recommends private Christians, congregations, and Auxiliary Societies, to make the needful arrangements for the employment of such an agency in their different localities.

That the thanks of the meeting be presented to the Chairman for presiding at the anniversary of the society.

Which, having been adopted, the CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and the proceedings closed with the Doxology.

THE VOLUNTARY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

The second annual meeting of this Association was held on Friday evening last, at the London Tavern. There was a very numerous attendance, the large room being completely filled. A large proportion of the audience were ladies. The platform was also crowded by ministers and other leading friends of the society. At seven o'clock, in the absence of Joseph Sturge, Esq., who had been announced to preside, the chair was taken by Apsley Pellatt, Esq.

The CHAIRMAN opened the proceedings by expressing his gratification at the numerous attendance, which, together with the considerable increase of subscriptions, indicated the growth of the Association, and of the principles it represented, in the public confidence. He hoped the society would be so well supported as to enable it to exemplify, on a large scale, the superior excellence of a general education over purely secular or partly sectarian instruction. The mind needed culture as really as the body sustenance. The circulation of even the Bible would be unavailing for the moral and religious elevation of the people, except they were instructed in at least the elements of knowledge. In that great and beneficent work, there could not be too many labourers; they met, therefore, not to cast anything like contempt or condemnation upon the efforts of other associations; but, on the contrary, to wish them God-speed, while, at the same time, they could not but wish that those efforts were of a more universal and catholic character [hear, hear]. Believing that such an education as was based upon the great principles of religious truth, tended to make those who were its subjects happier in this world, and to inspire them with hallowing anticipations of future and eternal bliss, in a higher state of existence, they could not but rejoice in the number of labourers in this wide and exhaustless field—they valued their co-operation, and desired their success. Nevertheless, conscientiously preferring the wider basis and larger views of this Association, they were still more gratified at the evidences of its growing strength. They might congratulate themselves upon the state of their finances, considering the short time the society has been established. They objected to Government education, because they believed that it had an inevitable tendency to narrow rather than expand the intellect of a people—to substitute for independence and self-reliance a pauper-like dependence on Government aid—as had indeed been its effect, wherever it had been tried. Its unhappy influence was seen on the continent—in some instances in servile submission to Government; in others, in war upon society itself; whereas a self-educated people would assuredly secure and maintain their civil and religious liberties, while they upheld the authority of law and order. The English nation would rather, he (the Chairman) believed, continue in that path which they had hitherto pursued—that career of voluntary activity and improvement which had led to the establishment of institutions admired even by foreign statesmen—those institutions of benevolence or commerce of which it was the distinguishing characteristic that they were erected and sustained by spontaneous energy—they would rather pursue this course than adopt the continental system of centralization [hear, hear]. They desired and were determined to keep their youthful population free from the influence of that priestism and Statecraft which were felt so disastrously in other departments [cheers], and which would certainly be grafted on, sooner or later, to any system of education under Government control [hear, hear]. Any such intention was now repudiated on the part of those advocated such a system—honestly repudiated, no doubt; but to that it must surely come. The society was founded by those who felt they could not be a party to the introduction of such a system even by the reception of State assistance for their schools, and who also felt that education should be at once religious and unsectarian. Its funds were therefore applied to the establishment or assistance—by training teachers and by granting money—of schools conducted on those principles. He would call at once upon the Secretary to read some communications he had received, and the Report of the past year's proceedings.

The ASSISTANT-SECRETARY (Mr. C. T. Jones) then read notes received from Mr. Sturge and Dr. Price, regretting and excusing absence—the first on account of the illness of his wife; the second, on account of personal ill-health, compelling non-attendance at public meetings. The Annual Report was next read. The following are its more important passages:—

During the past year, the Committee have received in donations and subscriptions, £1432 13s. 3d., which, with the balance in the hands of the treasurer, on the 31st of March, 1849 (£874 13s. 8d.), make a total of £2307 5s. 11d., on the receipt side of the account. In the same period they have expended £1,384 14s. 3d., leaving a balance of £2,307 5s. 11d., in the hands of the treasurer. On a comparison of the account with that for the previous year, it will be seen that, whilst the expenditure has greatly increased, the receipts are considerably less. This, however, is attributable to the fact, that a large proportion of the first year's receipts was composed of donations—large sums contributed at the commencement of the society, the annual repetition of which the Committee could not expect. Yet, when allowance is made for this circumstance (a circumstance which of itself shows the importance of a considerable augmentation of the society's yearly income), it will be found that the annual receipts have not increased in proportion to the expenditure of the Association. The want of local Auxiliaries, or of an effective organization throughout the length and breadth of the country, for advancing the interests of the Association, will, in part, account for this fact; in part also it may be ascribed to the temporary absence of the society's respected treasurer (now in the West Indies), whose success, in the important department of enrolling subscribers and collecting funds, was truly remarkable. The fact itself, however, calls for the active exertions of the society's supporters and friends, whose efforts should, in the first instance, be directed to the acquisitions of new annual subscribers, and thereby to an increase in the permanent yearly income of the Association—an object which your Committee feel to be of the deepest importance. If the Association is to advance—to become more effective for the purposes it was designed to serve—more commensurate with the spirit and requirements of the age, its periodical outgoings will progressively increase, and a proportionate augmentation must be effected in the funds which are yearly placed at its disposal.

The attention and resources of the Committee, during the year, have mainly been directed to the improvement of their Normal School for young men, at 30, Surrey-place, Old Kent-road, and to the establishment of a similar institution for training female teachers. With respect to the training-school for young men, they have to state, that, since the last annual meeting, eight pupils have been admitted; and, since the opening of the institution, thirteen. Of these, one, after a short term, was compelled to leave on account of ill-health; three others have been appointed to schools in the country, and for four more, the Committee are now anxious to obtain eligible situations. With this view, they earnestly invite applications from the committees of such Voluntary schools throughout the land as may require masters, and sincerely trust that, very shortly, all these young men will be located in appropriate spheres of usefulness and honour.

With reference to the female department, your Committee are happy to report, that, in consequence of the valuable aid rendered by the Ladies' Committee, the hopes held out at the last annual meeting have been fully realized. Suitable premises having been obtained at 15, Charlotte-row, Walworth, the Normal-school for young women was opened on Friday, the 8th of February last. The Ladies' Committee have secured, as superintendent of this institution, the services of Miss Johnstone, of Edinburgh, whom, from the testimonials received respecting her, and from the efficient manner in which she discharges the duties of the office, they believe to be well-qualified for the important position she sustains. At present, only four pupils have been admitted, the existence of the institution being, as yet, not generally known.

The larger proportion of the increase in the society's expenditure, shewn in this year's account, has been occasioned by the unavoidable outlay incurred in opening this institution, and providing it with the requisite furniture, books, and apparatus.

The Committee have also the pleasure to state, that, in conformity with one of the primary objects of the Association, they have, during the past year, been enabled to appropriate in small grants, the sum of £127 10s., in aid of schools declining Government assistance, yet absolutely requiring some description of extraneous support. These grants have been most thankfully received; and, in more than one instance, have been the means of preserving, in otherwise destitute localities, useful, though inadequately supported schools, from utter extinction. Besides these grants, the Committee have also voted £50 in aid of the Welsh Normal College at Swansea, an institution founded on principles similar to those of this society, and for which the larger portion of the needful funds has been raised in South Wales itself, by an amount of voluntary and self-denying effort highly creditable to our brethren of the Principality, nearly £3,000 having been contributed, a large proportion of it in small subscriptions of from one penny upwards, to four shillings, by parties in the humbler walks of life.

With respect to the West India Colonies, the Committee have much satisfaction in reporting, that, in accordance with the recommendation of the last annual meeting, they have raised the sum of £228, as a separate and special fund for promoting the cause of education in those interesting islands—a fund, the amount of which they hope greatly to increase. In no country do the friends of civil and spiritual freedom, of free religious education, stand more in need of assistance from without.

Your Committee have much satisfaction in stating, that, as their respected treasurer, G. W. Alexander, Esq., is now, for philanthropic purposes, making a tour through the West Indian colonies, the particular appropriation of the Special Fund has been left to him. From being on the spot, he will, of course, have the best possible opportunities of deciding upon the relative necessities of each locality, and the respective merits of every individual application. As yet, but a comparatively small amount has been applied, but the Committee anticipate that a large sum will be drawn on behalf of Jamaica, where Mr. Alexander has but just arrived, and where the energies of our missionary friends have been especially aroused, in consequence of an attempt recently made to impose upon them a most invidious and oppressive measure of state-education. The bill for this purpose, which was before the House of Assembly, has, for the present, as your Committee believe, been laid aside; but there is reason to apprehend, that, ere long, it will again be introduced, and that, to prevent its success, the most vigorous efforts will be required on the part of those who think that education should be voluntary, scriptural, and free.

The Financial Statement having also been read by W. Edwards, Esq., on behalf of the Treasurer, the Chairman called on

The Rev. D. KATTERNS, of Hackney, to move the first resolution:—

That the Report now read be adopted, printed, and circulated, under the direction of the Committee; and that the following gentlemen be the officers of the Society for the year ensuing, with power to add to their number.

I am here to-night (he said) for two reasons—first, because I am the advocate of popular education; and secondly, because I desire the freedom of all our educational institutions. I am a thorough Voluntary—a Voluntary not simply in matters of religion, but, so far as may be, in matters of benevolence. It seems to me, that when a kindness is to be done to a fellow creature, it should not be upon compulsion. Men should never say, or seem to say, "It is true, I ought to give of my substance to benefit my fellow creatures, to raise their social condition, to provide them with the means of grace and the knowledge of redemption,—but then I do not feel disposed to fulfil that obligation; and there are many in the same predicament; therefore, the Government should do the work, and compel them all to pay." That seems to me to be the plain, straightforward meaning of the principle that stands opposed to that embodied in this Association. Thus the benefit, whatever it may be, is deprived of all gracefulness; and thus, too, the hands of Government are filled with a great variety of complicated interests, with which they have no more to do than with the course of the stars, or the regulation of the seasons [hear, hear]—the work badly done, the organization becoming corrupt, and the results "like grass upon the house-tops, that withereth before it groweth up; the mower filleth not his hands, nor the reaper his bosom" [cheers]. The principle of compulsory education—as advocated in this country, at least—does not go far enough. It has never been proposed to go the length of compelling attendance at schools when established; which, if the principle be a sound one, is surely a mistake [hear, hear]. I see no reason why, if I should be compelled to give to another, he should not be compelled to receive. But there is some modesty left in the nation on this question; and I trust the day is far distant when the youthful population of this country shall be subjected to compulsory education, and be bound with chains which they may never be able to break off [hear, hear]. But it does appear to me, that there is a great deal to be done in raising the condition of the masses in this country before we are in a position to form a sound judgment on this question [hear]. If the people were not so badly fed, so badly clothed, so badly housed—if their means of subsistence were not so narrow as they are—if it were not so hard to provide the bare necessaries of life—they would be able and willing, I believe, to provide education for their children [cheers]. That education is valued by the poor, nobody denies—not even Mr. Shuttleworth Kay, "late Travelling Bachelor to the University of Cambridge," who has been collecting facts—one-sided facts [hear, hear]—in all parts of the continent

on the subject. There is such a high idea among the poor of the advantages of education, that if the means be only placed within their reach, they will gladly employ them. Shall we, then, bring it down to them as a matter of charity? or shall we not rather raise them into that social condition in which they will be able to act in the matter themselves? I, for one, boldly advocate the latter alternative; because if the education provided by the State be gratuitous, yet so long as the wages of the poor man are insufficient to provide for the wants of his family, without employing all hands as soon as able to work, you may multiply schools and teachers, and all the means and appliances of education, as much as you please, but the child must work because the parent must have his help, in the field or the factory, and the amount of school attendance will be hardly greater than now. But raise the condition of the people first—give them cheap food and good houses, full work and fair wages—then we may venture to affirm, they will provide education for themselves and their children [cheers]. I rejoice in the existence and prosperity of this Association. I took part, with many others, in a vigorous opposition to the Minutes of Council, which appear to me now, as they did then, the most disastrous measure that can be devised for the cause of education and of good government. I rejoice that this Association has arisen out of that opposition—a standing testimony to the principles then avowed. I am well aware there are many Voluntary Christians who were opposed to those Minutes of Council, pending their discussion, who, now that they have become law, will be in danger of compromising their principles by accepting Government aid. If this Association be properly supported by the churches throughout the country, there will be no need and no excuse for even the weakest of them thus bartering their birthright for a mess of pottage [hear, hear]. I advocate this Association, moreover, because I think that education and religion ought never to be dissociated. I trust we shall not allow ourselves to be chilled by the cold blasts that may come from the North on this matter, but shall continue to think clearly, and feel warmly, and act energetically, on the great principles on which we have taken our stand. It is to be regretted that some who are voluntaries in religion, seem to think it no more importance that a schoolmaster should be a religious man than a tailor or shoemaker. But does not education affect the training of the conscience as well as of the intellect? Would it not be the worst of mistakes to leave out the religious element in education?—and yet is it not the mistake of those worldly philanthropists who propose education as a panacea for every evil? Let them show us an example of the kind—let them prove, at all events, that the most educated classes, in all countries, are the most upright and virtuous members of the community; and the poorest and most uneducated are the most debased and depraved. When this is shown—which it would be very difficult to show—it must be shown that this is true of mere secular education—that poverty, with all its attendant influences, had not most to do with the issue. My conviction is, that the poorer classes of this country have been most foully slandered by the upper classes [cheers]—and that if we could collect together the virtuous and excellent of any one generation, the poor would have, in proportion to their numbers, a greater share than those who enjoy the advantages of mental culture and competence or wealth [renewed cheers]. Take the list of our illustrious literary men, as their habits are portrayed in their biographies, and will any one pretend that the great bulk of these men have been distinguished for high morality and excellent social conduct? Who does not know that a large class of them have been atheists and infidels, and another large division of them drunkards and sensualists, sometimes of the most base and grovelling sort—that many more have been disgraced by vices and follies which in other persons would have been denounced with contempt and severity, and the whole task of the biographer has been that of excusing what could not be denied, and covering folly and wickedness with the lustre of genius? And does not this show us, that mental culture, even when carried to the highest degree, and joined with the largest natural endowments, is not sufficient without moral culture, and the development of the religious element? Sometimes we are pointed to the continent, and told—especially by the aforesaid "Travelling Bachelor"—that the poorer classes of this country are far worse educated, and in a lower moral condition, than any people of Europe, except those of Italy, Portugal, and Spain. But we have testimonies on the other side—the testimony of tourists, who have gone over precisely the same countries. I will take the most recent—persons not at all remarkable for attachment to Evangelical religion. One says, that the result of this pattern continental education is, in one word, "stultification" [hear, hear]—that if you are introduced to a man as having had a first-class ticket at school, you may be sure he is a fool; if he has a second-class ticket, he is probably not more than ordinarily intelligent; but if of the third-class, he is most likely a clever fellow [laughter]. There are some philosophers who measure the intelligence and morality of a people just as they measure the distances of stars—cannot be brought to understand that "schools" and "education" do not mean the same thing. We have, happily, in this country, a thousand means of education besides schools—a free press, public discussion, and all the influences of Protestantism, make it impossible to be very ignorant; knowledge pours in at nearly every avenue to the mind;—so that though you may find some unable to read or write, you rarely find them profoundly ignorant of things essential to be known. I will not proceed further, but move the adoption of the resolution [cheers].

The Rev. J. Howard Hinton seconded the motion. He said: Having been present at the deliberations which resulted in the constitution of this society, and in bringing it forth for public acceptance, I feel a lively interest in its progress, and I feel much gratified by the tenour of the Report which it is enabled this year to present to its constituents. The society has a warm place in my heart. It is doing a good work, and doing it in the best way. Time, it was said by Voltaire, is the great comforter. It is also the great teacher; and it is teaching lessons in respect to general education, which, it would seem, the human mind is hardly able to arrive at, and very slow to receive. On this subject—whether education should be aided, in a pecuniary way, by the State—time is teaching even statesmen. Whether the system developed in the Minutes of Council have worked well, let the differences in the National Society—the differences between my lord the statesman and my lord lord the bishop—tell [hear, hear]. A total failure that has been found, and will still be found, to be. Or look abroad, and see what lesson time is there teaching us. The national system in France, so much applauded, as emancipated from the thraldom of the clergy—with how much impartiality to be administered by the University of Paris, and so forth—what is it now? Why, with the recoil of the revolution of '48, it has gone back to the domination of the clergy, as absolutely a mere portion of political machinery. In truth it was so before. Buonaparte—I mean the emperor, not his mimic [laughter and cheers]—used to say, "My good university! she is an excellent arsenal of ideas"—and imperial ideas were those then ordered to be disseminated through the departments—monarchical ideas under Louis XVIII., and Charles X., and Louis Philippe—republican principles under the provisional government—and now again the principle of restoration—schoolmasters thrown out of employment with every change of political government. There is the ripening of the seed of national education. It is no use to say with some in England, "It will not come to that here"—the seed is the same, and the fruit will be no less bitter, though not, it may be, so soon ripe. I have no inclination for my country to taste the fruit, and therefore I resist the scattering of the seed [hear]. We trust that by the good sense of the people of England, and their promptness to read the lessons of experience, the lesson will be received [hear, hear]. Besides this peculiarity, there is another, I think, in the lesson which time is reading to us. We have in our organization no religious or denominational peculiarities. There is at present a great deal of denominational education—Church, Wesleyan, Congregational, and so forth. Now, we take the solid, broad basis of religion alone. I think such a principle must commend itself to all thinking men, and I shall be glad to see its early adoption. The men who, through a kind Providence, and the exercise of a sound judgment, are the first to see the truth on these topics—who will not yield to superficial arguments, or to the influence of ignoble prejudices—these are the men to whom time brings laurels—the men who can stand up amidst all changes which time shall produce, and see the confusion of opposite and ill-founded experiments—shall see more and more men convinced that they were right—and see at last, perhaps, that they have been permitted to throw out into society germs of sound principle and vital truth, that shall do more for the real benefit of mankind than a thousand more gorgeous and expensive theories [cheers]. I do trust that, in this respect, we have done something. I see that the meeting of this year is more numerous and encouraging than that of last; and I do anticipate that this "little one will become a thousand, and the small one a strong nation"—that while we look with no feeling of rivalry upon other associations, but just work here because here alone we can work—repudiating on the one hand State assistance, and on the other denominational action—others will be uniting with us in appreciation of the same object; and that, by and by, united in action as well as in spirit, we shall see drawing near that day when knowledge shall be every man's possession, as it is every man's birthright, and shall be found connected with pure and undefiled religion, the earnest of everlasting happiness [great applause].

Mr. Edward Miall, on rising to move the second resolution, was received with loud and repeated rounds of cheering. He said: Nothing but an earnest apreciation of the object, a deep sympathy with the principles upon which this Association is based, would have induced me to leave this evening the privacy and repose which the engagements of the week have rendered so necessary [hear, hear]. Had your Association been strong in popularity—had I anticipated that it would have received the willing advocacy of many great and strong men amongst us—I should certainly have felt justified in absenting myself, however reluctantly, from this meeting. But always sympathizing with truth in its infancy [hear, hear], and feeling that he renders most aid who renders it when most wanted, I come forward on this occasion; and I only fear, that the few remarks I may make upon the resolution now placed in my hands, will be characterised by the weakness and languor which belong to the source from which they must come. The resolution is:—

That this meeting, believing that nothing but the spontaneous exertions of enlightened Christian philanthropy can truly meet the educational wants of the British people; and that all State interference with religious instruction is at variance with the interests both of justice and of truth, rejoices in the results already accomplished by the Voluntary School Association, and would earnestly anticipate for it a yet larger measure of efficiency and public support.

The expression to which my mind first directed itself, when my eye glanced over the resolution, is, "The educational wants of the British people." The phrase is a happy one, presenting a topic for serious thought. There have been many individuals during the last five years, who have attempted to cram down our throats the conclusion, unsustained by evidence, that the British people are the worst educated in Europe. Sir, I believe it to be a thorough libel, utterly destitute of truth—a simple play upon words. There may be less of reading and writing, less of geography and arithmetic, amongst our poor than may be found in some of the continental countries. But these do not meet "the educational wants" of a people. Taking the British people, and looking at them in their national characteristics, I should say, they are as well able to understand and appreciate great moral and political truths, that they are as self-reliant, that they as capable of self-government, that they have released themselves from as many slavish and degrading superstitions, as any people on the face of the globe [cheers]. There is a cant abroad about education—about the magical effects to be produced upon a man's character, by the simple power of reading and writing. That power I would be far from depreciating, but I would remember that after all, it is very similar to that of the knife and fork—it is of no use unless food be furnished. The education which the British people want, is an education that will raise their moral character, develop the inner man, direct and exercise the very best sympathies and affections of our nature—an education which will put them into a state of susceptibility to spiritual impressions, connect them with eternity, give power to conscience, and so impress them as that the moral shall have power over the material in all their character and conduct [hear, hear]. But this kind of education is far different from that which is spoken of by those who are anxious to adopt a national system: They say, that the fact recently brought to light, that in proportion as we have been increasing what are called our educational means, so crime has been increasing, is to be accounted for simply on this ground—that we have not communicated instruction enough. We have stopped short instead of going on to greater lengths. We have given the mere elements of knowledge without communicating knowledge itself. We have taught reading and writing, and arithmetic—we ought to have taught geometry and algebra and natural philosophy [laughter]. Does any man in his senses believe that if we had done this, the population would have been less depraved than it is? Is there anything in algebra to mollify the heart or enlighten the conscience? The parties who make such assertions must surely be utterly and profoundly ignorant of the first principles that education should involve. If education be the training of the man—the foundation of right habits, the development and right direction of sympathy and affection—then that which is proposed to be communicated through a national machinery will as assuredly fail as that which has already been given. There is some little mistake, too, according to my individual view, prevalent amongst the public respecting religious education. I am of Dr. Arnold's opinion, not only with respect to the matter on which he uttered it, but likewise with respect to education generally. He says, "What I want to see is not so much books teaching religion, as books treating all subjects in a religious spirit." What I think necessary for the rising generation is, not the inculcation of dogmatic truths, that may be put into the mind of a pupil during a given period in his school duties, but what is of the vastest importance—that all topics be brought before him by a teacher capable of rendering them the vehicle of right and true thoughts respecting the great realities of the eternal world. There should be a religious atmosphere about every one engaged in the instruction of the young. The pupils should not so much hear religious things as feel religious influences [hear, hear]. Every topic mooted, every instruction communicated, should come forth baptized with a religious spirit. I defy any Government to make provision for this want of the British people. They may establish large and expensive machinery, beautifully organized and regularly moved, just as the funds may be supplied by the British nation; but they cannot supply the life which must, after all, be the chief agency in training up our children in a knowledge of their responsibility to God [hear, hear]. I would rather have one schoolmaster properly influenced by love to his work, earnestly desirous of making his office subordinate to the religious education of his children, than I would have fifty schoolmasters selected by Government, simply in consequence of their intellectual acquisitions, and their capability of pouring floods of secular knowledge upon the young mind of the country [hear, hear]. If we are to remain a great people, or if we are to grow still greater, it must be owing, not to our leaning more and more upon the central power of Government, but to our developing more and more the inherent, self-reliant power of the people [cheers]. We must not make our educational establishments go down to present wants; but must raise the poor of the community to a position in which all their desires can find effectual gratification—their desires, namely, for the instruction of their offspring. But for the immense sums which now seem to be necessary for the sustentation of Government—but for that which is wrung out of the labour of the people by taxation—but for the wasteful expenditure constantly going on in all departments of Government—but for the idleness which is pampering itself at the expense of industry—but for these things, which are rather increasing in these days than going back, though there may be a temporary retreat of the wave, I believe that the people would

not only wish to educate their offspring, but would be capable of doing it [cheers]. We may adopt any system of national instruction—we may have municipal or parish schools, presided over by committees chosen from among the ratepayers themselves, and yet not reach the evil of the case. You cannot, after all, communicate instruction of any worth to those who are ground down to the social depths in which many of our people exist. We must, therefore, begin—if it is to be a national work at all—begin wisely. Let the Government first of all repeal all taxes on knowledge [loud cheers]. Let them promote to office only the trustworthy and deserving. Let there be no sinecures. Let it be felt that education of the true sort is valued by those who govern—that it is the means of elevating those who possess it to the highest posts, and better chances of success—and then we may fully leave the people to their natural tendencies and affections [hear, hear]. A government may easily provide instruction for, but it never yet trained up, a people to the heights of social and moral development. Great Britain—after all we have heard of her ignorance; and there is too much of it—and all her social misery; and there is too much of that—in everything whereby a nation can be distinguished, will bear comparison with the highly educated nations of the continent. We are as peaceful here as in France [laughter]—as self-reliant as in Austria—as free from superstition as in Italy—as capable of appreciating political subjects as in Russia [laughter and cheers]. Here we have that education which has been diffused by the press—that education which comes out not merely through books and primers and slates, but from the daily contact of mind with mind, and the impression made upon the heart by surrounding circumstances. It is to this education that we wish Government would pay some little attention—instead of creating a huge machinery which will most certainly fail, and may dry up the sources of voluntary action, and cast up all sorts of obstruction in its way [hear, hear]. Mr. Miall proceeded to express his gratification at the progress of the society and the growing strength of the voluntary principle in education; and concluded by declaring his conviction, that no people can be thoroughly educated—no educational wants can be thoroughly met—except on these principles, that it be religious in its kind, and that it be spontaneously offered [loud applause].

David Wire, Esq., seconded the resolution, repeating and enforcing much that had been previously said. He was a member of the Congregational Board of Education, and was at a loss to understand why that body and the Voluntary School Society should take up separate action, since their principles were precisely similar.

The Rev. J. Burnet proposed the third resolution:—

That this meeting deems the increased efficiency of the Association the more important, inasmuch as it is convinced that the attempts now making to obtain a national system of *purely secular* education, are calculated to supersede the *religious* instruction of the people, by sapping the foundations of voluntary Christian effort, and loudly call upon Christians of all denominations for united action, in order to promote the education of the youth of this country in the principles of Scripture truth.

The resolution, in short, means just this—that the efforts making for the purpose of giving secular education, are likely to put down scriptural education. It evidently referred to a measure before Parliament respecting the education of the people. Now, whatever the apparent kindliness of such a bill, or the efficiency of the plan, it will always be regarded by me as inimical to the liberties of the people. Any plan that attempts to touch the mind of the people with the hand of government, must be a bad plan. But they have now a kind of secular religion—for they talk of making people religious by secular education [hear, hear]—an education that must exclude all religious topics. Why, if we read ancient or modern history—if we go into any country, look at any government, there is everywhere a church and a religion, about which an opinion must be given by the teacher, if his instruction is worth anything [hear, hear]. Both history and geography must be excluded—painting and architecture, natural and moral and political philosophy—must all be left untouched, because they are all mixed-up with religion. There is positively no subject we can touch, except mathematics [laughter, and hear, hear], because that is the only subject about which there is no difference of opinion. But then to say that to teach mathematics is to educate the people, is simply an absurdity. Come back, then, to the main question, whether the people cannot educate themselves. Let mind reflect its light on mind. Let the man who has religious views and feelings impart them to others. Let there be the free diffusion of thought. Let us feel that we are just in the position in which we ought to be—that every man can accept or reject our instructions as he pleases. To take the helm of the State in education, and to steer clear of all religious subjects, is an utter impossibility. As to the swamping of our voluntary efforts—why, the teachers in your parish schools, rewarded not according to their success, but according to the number of their pupils, will have a direct interest in setting aside your voluntary schools. Mr. Fox does not say so—he does not tell you that his measure will annihilate you—but it will do it. He requires you to tax yourselves; and, if you won't do it, he will tax you by an order in Council. I am surprised that this gentleman—liberal as he is—should have hit upon such a plan [hear, hear]. It is easy for them to say the voluntary principle has failed—it is just as easy for us to say it has not failed; and as to statistics, they are as much in our favour as in theirs. Does any one man doubt that education is advancing? Is the increasing number of public meetings—the gathering together of all classes for the discussion of all topics—no sign of advancing education? I believe, in spite of mystified figures, it is making rapid progress. There is not so much a lack of schools, as a difficulty in getting people to send their children. I believe this system of secular education is intended to set aside all religious education. We tell the gentlemen who bring forward this measure, that they make very little account of any religion whatever. They are liberal politicians; and, if they had kept to that, I would have stood by them, as I have always done; but, when they scowl upon religion, I tell them they have got beyond their knowledge—they don't understand the subject. Take care, then, of these liberal politicians in matters of education and religion. Take care they don't fasten upon the community what will put down everything like religious education, and damage civil liberty [hear]. And as to the Association—you know its object, and I commend it seriously to your devout and prayerful liberality [cheers].

J. Scoble, Esq., briefly seconded the motion, calling attention to the extending and oppressive operation of the compulsory education system in our colonies.

The Rev. W. Brock wished to add a few words. He believed this Association to be the only School Society worth being connected with. He gave an illustration of the gross exaggeration of the estimates of ignorance now put forth. He went among a very large body of men, of whom he was told that only a few could read, and he found that only a few could not. "Some one came and asked us," said they; "but who was he? we were not going to tell him" [laughter]. The Government system was in a complete fix—the National Society, with its religious objections, blocking up one side, and on the other the secular system with its despotism—for so Lord John spoke of Mr. Fox's bill, and if he (Lord John) talked about despotism, it must be bad indeed [laughter and cheers]. He (Mr. Brock) quite concurred with Mr. Burnet as to the Liberals. He wished Mr. Burnet would write a book of proverbs [laughter], after the fashion of Martin Tupper's "Proverbial Philosophy." One of the best of those aphorisms would be, "Trust not the Liberals in education and religion." The philosophical Radicals, the Molesworth school, were more to be feared than the Inglis school [hear, hear].

A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN SCHOOL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of this society was held at Exeter Hall on Monday. The weather was extremely unpropitious, by no means such as to induce ladies, who always constitute the great majority at these meetings, to venture forth, and the consequence was, that notwithstanding the attraction of the Earl of Carlisle's name, the hall was very scantily attended. Mr. W. Tooke, and the Revs. T. Binney and G. Clayton, were among the gentlemen present.

The Earl of Carlisle assumed the chair shortly after 12 o'clock, and opened the proceedings with a long and eloquent address. He must always feel it, he said, both a satisfaction and a distinction to be called on by the committee, and to be permitted by the society, to have the honour of presiding over the annual meeting of the British and Foreign School Society [cheers]. Society at large, notwithstanding many most encouraging symptoms of improvement and progress, appeared to him still to be labouring under evils which he could portray by no epithet short of terrific [cheers]. They wore a hundred forms and presented themselves in a hundred ways; but, perhaps, they might be roughly classed as mainly coming under the general heads of ignorance, poverty, and crime [cheers]. Those, notwithstanding the better prospects and more cheering promises which might break the moral and social clouds here and there, still seemed to him to be the pale and angry and menacing forms which stalked around the camp of the gospel. Now, he looked upon it to be the mission—the true, obvious, and paramount mission, both of all individual men and of all corporate bodies, to wage incessant war against those evils which still disturbed and desolated our globe. To do so was the real vocation of Christian men and the supreme glory of Christian churches [cheers]. Then the question came upon them, to what extent were they fulfilling that end? Whilst partially he hoped and believed that they were doing so to a large extent; professedly, he knew they all were. But still, when they looked attentively into matters which seemed much to occupy their attention and to engross their interest, and to kindle their passions, and to engage, as it were, their heart of hearts, did they find them prominently employed on those common objects and against those common foes? Was it not too frequently that their attention and energy were diverted and distracted upon differences sometimes trivial, more frequently uncharitable, often wholly immaterial as to any practical issue? [cheers.] Were there not too frequently differences about the mode and form and the ceremony of doing the thing instead of a determination that the thing should be done? Was it not too frequently a jealous exclusion or a vexatious worrying of themselves and each other instead of a hearty wish to combine and a sincere effort to co-operate? [cheers.] Now, the pith of these charges did not appear to him to lie exclusively at the door of any church or denomination, but in some degree to influence and infect them all. At one time the charge was that some church or denomination, or some party or section in it, omitted to teach a truth; at others, that they interpolated a gloss. At one time they were told that they were unduly straitening the reins of authority; at another, that they were opening the door to a dangerous license. One was said to rely upon empty ordinances; another upon uncovenanted mercies. If they joined with such a party or with such persons, they were told that they were confounding truth and error: if they received assistance from such a quarter, they were accused of touching the unclean thing [cheers]. Now, he would not be supposed for a moment to undervalue the duty which was incumbent on every person, without exception, to conform to the clearest perception which he could form in everything of the will of his Supreme Creator, and of the true meaning of His written word; but those were frequently matters which must lie between the soul and its Maker. But with refererence to the position of the Christian in that world in which he was placed, let him but remember that ignorance, foul ignorance, was what he had to enlighten; that poverty was what he had to raise and to relieve; that crime was what he had to discountenance and subdue [cheers]. He did not say that other questions would not arise, that other duties would not present themselves; but after all that was done they would at least be apt to assume their proper place and proportion, for he was inclined to believe that there was hardly a single dispute or difference which seemed so much to distract the quiet of many of our Christian bodies and communities; however high might be the truths, however awful might be the mysteries with which they seemed to deal, yet they ought not to stand still and silent, unrebuked, before that seething and fermenting mass of degrading ignorance and brutalizing vice which defiled so much and threatened to engulf so much more of our teeming population [cheers]. He then referred to that portion of Christian bodies and communities amongst us, who, spent on jealousies without, and recrimination within, that zeal and energy which ought to fight the battles of our common faith against the infidelity which denied, and the vice which dishonoured it [great applause]. Such considerations as these would tend much to discourage and dispirit him with regard to the prospects of the future, if he believed that such disputes and differences as those which he had lamented, if he might not say he condemned, leavened the entire mass of those bodies to any very great or thorough extent. But he derived his chief grounds of consolation and of comfort from the hope that those very differences and disputes did not extend far beneath the surface—that they were chiefly taken up and kept up by the more bustling, turbulent, and, as he must think them, really worldly spirits, and that beyond them, amongst every one, almost, of our Christian churches and communities, there was a very large and growing mass of humble-minded, peace-loving, unobtrusive persons, whose cry was not heard in the streets, but who, whilst scribes disputed and pharisees denounced, were ready to bend over the stricken on the wayside, and to pour oil into his wounds [cheers]. Now, an opportunity of acting in that spirit of peace and love seemed to him to be eminently presented to them by the plan and operations of this society. He did not pretend to them—he should not act consistently if he did—that it was the only matter and plan which ought to be supported. He did not pause now to inquire whether it was the best that in imagination and theory could possibly be devised. All he felt persuaded was, that it was eminently calculated to meet some of the most marked features and some of the most crying wants of the times in which we lived. He believed it was singularly adapted to provide for the wants of many portions of our population, perhaps the most important, perhaps the most deserving—if neglected, perhaps the most formidable [cheers]. He believed, also, that it made provision in places and districts for the education of the rising community which, if not made by that society, would not be made at all. Discussions had taken place elsewhere with respect to the policy of introducing, as far as the State was concerned, a plan of secular apart from religious education. He did not propose to discuss that question there, or to offer any opinion on one side or the other; but he knew that strong convictions must be entertained on that subject, and all he could exhort them was, if they wished to avoid the adoption and sanction of principles and systems of which they did not approve, to do what in them lay to extend the basis and to enlarge the operation of those systems of which they did approve [loud cheers].

Mr. Dunn, the Secretary, then read the Report. In detailing the operations of the society it stated that the model schools continued full and exercised a beneficial influence on the neighbourhood. Upwards of 1,000 children were in daily attendance, and 50,986 had been under instruction since they had been opened; 13 pupil teachers were apprenticed in the boys' school, and eight in the girls' school. The Normal schools were prospering. 142 students had been under instruction during the year, but difficulty was experienced in obtaining an adequate number of qualified men; 132 female teachers had been under training during the year; 72 new schools, for 7,000 children, had been opened during the year; fifty schools had been temporarily, and 166 permanently, supplied with teachers. 104 grants of school materials had been made, either to schools at home or in the colonies. The connexion existing between the society and the Committee of Council had worked well. No interference or control of any kind had been attempted, whilst prejudices were in many quarters giving way. The foreign operations were then reviewed, and a sketch of the state of education in Greece, the West Indies, British North America, South Africa, and Australia, furnished. The financial position of the society greatly needed improvement, although many

[*Continued on page* 382].

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. H.," Islington. We will send his letter to the proper quarter, and no doubt a communication will be made to him.

"Lionel Butler." We will reply to his communication next week.

"Aliquis." It is impossible to give him a satisfactory answer in print. Five minutes' conversation with him would set him right. We have no doubt that, ere long, his wishes will be complied with.

"Congregationalist," and "A Tradesman," will see in the report contained in our columns, a sufficient reason for our not inserting their letters.

"E. Jackson." We do not think the publication of his letter will serve the cause he wishes to promote.

"John Bimman." We have read his communication with much interest. We should be glad to get it before the public eye—but for reasons which, no doubt, he will appreciate, we have scruples as to making the *Nonconformist* the medium of its publication.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1850.

SUMMARY.

THE May meetings are just now in full swing. Christian Willinghood blossoms this month, and produces on the whole a spectacle, which, however sceptics may sneer, does honour to Great Britain, and affords fair evidence of the philanthropic sympathies which Christianity inspires and nourishes. Where so many anniversaries are crowded into the brief space of a few weeks, and the objects aimed at are so various, and yet so important, it would be absurd to descend into particulars, or attempt to enumerate the names of the Associations that have held, are holding, or are about to hold, their annual meetings. Every day is fully occupied—and every day witnesses the gathering together of large assemblies, for purposes connected with the bodily, intellectual, or spiritual condition of man. If we make any exception to our rule, it is to advert for a moment to the proceedings of the Congregational Union of England and Wales. Not, indeed, that we are able to furnish our readers with such a report of the deliberations of that body as we could have wished—for this, the Committee of the Union, most absurdly, as we think, took effectual pains to prevent—but, inasmuch as we are known to entertain an objection to the constitution and general object of that organization, we think it due to those who are members of it, to record a decision, unanimously arrived at by them, which, in our judgment, bespeaks their wisdom and integrity. At a meeting held yesterday, they passed a resolution, instructing their Committee to take steps to terminate the connexion at present existing between the Union and its organs of the press,—namely, the *Christian Witness* and the *Penny Magazine*. In doing this, we think they have done a simple act of justice to themselves. We shall not mar its effect by any comment of ours. The fact is one which we may most safely leave to tell its own tale. And we understand the manner in which it was brought about, eminently befitted the deed finally resolved upon.

Her Majesty has presented the nation with another prince, and, together with her infant son, she is reported as doing well. Our readers will not suspect us to be wanting in loyal attachment to the throne, if we refrain from imitating some of our contemporaries in giving way to an enthusiastic outburst of adulatory joy. We do heartily sympathize with the Queen in every addition made to her domestic happiness. We can congratulate her both as a wife and a mother, and, in our measure, can participate in her gladness—and if we are unable to see in the increase made to the Royal Family an unmixed blessing for the people of these realms, it is because Court customs and aristocratic principles, have taught us to associate with princes and princesses of the Blood Royal costly additions to the pecuniary burdens of the people. We cannot, however, chronicle the event without expressing our sincere admiration of the manner in which both her Majesty and the Prince Consort have borne themselves from the time of their marriage until now.

The Protectionists are at work in earnest—determined, if possible, to recover the ground they have lost. On Monday a meeting of delegates deputed by the various Agricultural Societies throughout the United Kingdom, was held at the Offices of the National Association, South-sea House. An address, signed by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. George Frederick Young, was read and unanimously adopted. The pith of it may be given in a few words. They are these:—"A dissolution of Parliament cannot now be remote, and may occur much earlier than is generally imagined. If protection is to triumph, Protectionists must be prepared for the struggle a dissolution will bring. The two great points on which preparation is indispensable to success are—close and untiring attention to the registration of electors, and a timely selection of fit and proper candidates." This is, unquestionably, business-like, and the advice here given might be taken with advantage by associations whose objects are even more feasible than the restoration of an import duty on corn.

A curious correspondence arising out of the Gorham Case, has been perplexing the Heads of the Church, and is now entertaining the public. The Rev. Mr. Maskell, of St. Mary's Church, in the diocese of Exeter, resolved upon resigning his ministry, because, in his opinion, the Judicial Committee of Privy Council have implied, by their decision, that the Church has "no doctrines to teach, and no faith to inculcate." Some passages of this correspondence are peculiarly rich—for example, Mr. Maskell asks the Archbishop of Canterbury whether he may teach such and such doctrines in the name of the Church. The Archbishop replies courteously and cautiously, that he may, if they are "doctrines contained in the Word of God." The Vicar of St. Mary says, in his rejoinder, that he finds, with "pain and sorrow," that "if there is anything which he ought to teach, it is this, that the Church of England has no distinct doctrine, except on a single subject," namely, the Trinity; and he concludes a very suggestive letter, by declaring that he cannot see "how such a system, once openly avowed, can fail to lead thousands into infidelity." The Gorham judgment is but beginning to work.

We have given, in the first page of the present number, a general summary of the ecclesiastical topics which the week has produced. We shall not, in this place, repeat the information we have there recorded. We may, however, remark, that since that article was written, other matters of the same character have thrust themselves upon our notice. The Archbishop of Canterbury has explained in his place in the House of Lords, that he has nominated his son, not to a sinecure office as alleged, but to the performance of duties by no means nominal, the payment for which Parliament itself is to fix. In the House of Commons, too, an interesting debate took place on the motion of Mr. Gladstone, upon the bringing up of the report of the Australian Colonies Government Bill, to insert clauses, the effect of which would have been to give the Church of England in Australia the same power of self-management and control as that possessed by voluntary bodies. This attempt to introduce the thin end of the wedge which would separate the Church from all State jurisdiction, while she still retains political power and State pay, was determinately and successfully resisted. It is plain, that such a proposition will find no favour in the eyes of the leading politicians of the day.

The other Parliamentary topics we can but barely mention. A Protectionist skirmish in the House of Lords—some progress made in committee on the County Courts Bill, in the House of Commons — the announcement of a new Ten Hours Factory Bill, to which we have adverted elsewhere—and the defeat of Ministers on the duty imposed upon attorneys' certificates, which will add to the perplexity of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—however, at another time, they might have tempted remark, we are constrained this week to pass over without observation.

BLOOD FROM A POST.

THE passage of the Australian Colonies Government Bill, through the several stages required by the forms of Parliament, will, perhaps, be productive of national advantage, to the full as great as the rights and privileges conferred by it will extend to the Colonies themselves. Indeed, the measure, viewed in itself, is but a partial, almost a nominal, instalment of justice. It creates, it is true, a representative system where it found none. But it neutralises the worth of it, by combining with it the element of centralization and patronage. It does homage to sound political principles, but the homage which it offers is rendered so guardedly, and with so large an amount of implied mistrust, as to make it more likely to breed discontent, than to ensure confidence, or to excite gratitude. Described in brief, it shows merely the Colonial Office compelled to assume the mask and garb of constitutional virtue; and, just as hypocrisy is regarded as a tribute to religion, so this Ministerial Bill may be appealed to, as an unwilling recognition of those important political truths, enounced by Lord John Russell at the commencement of the session. As constituting a basis for good government in the Australian Colonies, we look upon it as likely to turn out what Whig compromises have usually done—a decided failure. But, as indicating the general direction in which future legislation for our now infant empires must proceed, we take it to be one of the most important measures of the present session.

Parliament has been engaged in constituting *de novo*, a form of government professedly adapted to Anglo-Saxon character and habits. Strongly biassed as may have been those who thus employed themselves by party spirit, it was altogether unlikely that their discussion of first principles should not bring out into strong relief several important truths, overlaid in this country by obsolete customs and aristocratic influence—truths, consequently, which were in imminent danger, if not of disappearing from the public mind, at least of dying out of the public heart. And this is the principal value we attach to the introduction, and repeated discussion, of the Australian Colonies Government Bill. It has mooted great constitutional principles, which prescription at home had consigned to the darkness and decay of the imperial lumber-room. It has brought out fundamental truths from obscurity and neglect, polished them to their original brilliancy, and placed them conspicuously before the eyes of the people. For the time being, it has treated the red-tapism and dusty cobwebs of Downing-street conventionalities, as such things ought to be treated by intelligent patriotism, and it has made its ultimate appeal, not so much to mildewed precedents, of value only to official minds, but to universal laws, applicable and interesting to all men, in all ages. Hence, the debates on this Bill have breathed a freshness not often perceived in parliamentary proceedings, and the effect which they may be calculated to have upon the popular mind may be estimated as much more important than any positive benefit which the Bill itself will confer upon the Colonies in question.

Taking the measure as a whole, we are disposed to view it as a reluctant and stuttering recognition of the right of our Colonists, in all matters pertaining exclusively to their own welfare, to self-government—that is, to government by institutions which themselves prefer. This is the true moral of the entire measure—however inarticulate and uncouth may be the expressions in which it is embodied. Whatever provisions repugnant to this principle are to be found in the Bill, and they are confessedly many, they avowedly rest upon what is accidental, local, and temporary only. The drift of this piece of legislation is towards an equal and complete representative system. The restrictions upon it are merely proposed with a view to retard its pace. The true significance of the Bill expresses a maxim of political wisdom to which humanity in its most enlarged sense will give cordial assent. The compromising elements foisted into it, speak only of ministerial timidity, the present state of parties, or the predominance in the legislature of aristocratic ideas. What the Bill professes to embody, but does not, or does so to a very partial extent, will remain, will expand, will become triumphant—what it does not profess to aim at, but really includes and renders dominant, will dwindle and become finally extinct. Time and experience will nourish the strength of the one, and destroy the force of the other. The ideas, and feelings, and determinations, which its operation must elicit in the colonies, will all tend towards the development of those features of the measure which express self-government—and to the gradual destruction of those which provide for Downing-street dictation. Imperfect, therefore, as it is, it will doubtless be productive of larger results than its authors intended—for wherever life is put in contact with form, the last must ultimately succumb to the first.

It has been not less instructive than curious to note, as the discussions upon this Bill have proceeded, how entirely the constitutional principles to which we have referred, have been assented to by all political parties. Scarcely a proposition made by Sir William Molesworth, by Mr. Roebuck, or by other Colonial reformers, has been rejected on the ground of its own intrinsic demerits. Usually, the general truth of them has been assented to, and special reasons only have been assigned for putting them in abeyance at the present moment. This, also, will produce unanticipated results. Those of the people who notice parliamentary proceedings, will look at their own position by the light of those axioms which, when engaged upon Colonial matters, the House of Commons receive without a single protest. The work to be done in Australia will suggest pregnant thoughts respecting the work necessary to be done at home—and the Anglo-Saxon in England and Scotland will read his rights in the constitution provided for the Anglo-Saxon at the antipodes. So it is, that every good work has bearings which can only be described as universal, and the radiance which goes out from a central body to distant

objects, is reflected back upon the neighbourhood whence it emanates.

We look upon the Bill now under notice, as a fair specimen of a transitionary period. It is an approach to a much higher and nobler form of political rule, but it is only an approach. Its promise is to be valued far more than itself. It has a look *forward*, and because it has so, we are disposed to endure for the present its imperfections, and anticipate better things hereafter.

THE TEN HOURS' BILL.

MINISTERS have at length resolved upon their course on the short-time agitation, revived through the break-down of their former slovenly enactment. Stirred up by Lord Ashley, and the operative-philanthropic agitation at his back, they have mustered sufficient courage to determine on doing something—but that something only a characteristic compromise. The question—ten or eleven hours, which? they answer by pronouncing for ten-and-a-half. Relays are not to be permitted; the working-day is to stretch from six a.m. to six p.m., with one hour and a half for rests. A Saturday's half-holiday will reduce the added labour-time to two hours per week. Therewith the "hands" might be content, perhaps—ill as they can afford even that deduction from their scanty leisure—were it not that they are justly displeased at the spiritless policy that fears to defend its own handiwork, while it claims the honour of its working well.

In contending that the Ten Hours' Act should be preserved and enforced in its integrity, we do not forget the general ground on which we objected to its primary enactment, and on which we daily meet measures of a similar character. To legislate on the hours of labour, we hold to be as unjustifiable as to fix the rate of wages; and that, again, as futile as to decree what shall be the aspect of the sky, the state of the atmosphere, and the condition of the soil, through any given season—since on those circumstances must mainly depend the abundance or scarcity of those productions which are at once the material of labour and the means of its remuneration. To limit the period of work, is to limit the power of production—that, again, is to enhance the price of purchase, which, in its turn, narrows the other channels of industrial activity—and so on, in countless circles of causation; the stoppage of a Manchester mill felt in every village where its fabrics are worn, and among the cotton-growers of the Southern Transatlantic States. If it be urged, that the largest possible fabrication of cotton goods, or, indeed, the increase of material wealth, in any shape, is not the highest interest of a nation—but the full development of its people's spiritual and physical faculties—we heartily agree, but do not admit that therefore the legislator may interpose to aid the latter by retarding the former. Our conviction of the evils inflicted on body, soul, and spirit, by excessive labour, is deep and ever-present. Daily observation confirms us in the belief, that no great good will be accomplished for the working-classes, until the duration of their toil be lessened, its intensity lightened, and its rewards enlarged and secured. We cannot contemplate the condition of masses of our fellow-countrymen in this respect—we cannot think of their jaded frames and neglected minds—of the mere animalism to which they are reduced, by the worse than animal tasks they are compelled to perform—without a sickness at the very heart. But we cannot allow either the conviction or the feeling to override the calm conclusion of our reason, that these evils could be only temporarily abated, and would almost certainly be greatly aggravated, by direct legislative interference.

For all that, Parliament having once decided on trying the experiment, it should have been fairly worked out. Veracity is a virtue indispensable to good character; with a government, the want of it is contemptible, as well as hateful—because less than ordinary temptations to unveracity are met by more motives to resistance. To break faith with the weakest class of subjects is especially ignoble. Yet this is what the Whigs have done. A reputation for philanthropy, purchased by the adoption of the Ten Hours' Bill, was one of the bladders on which they swam up to the heights of office. Greatly they glorified themselves on their superiority to the rigorous observance of political economy. Quietly they saw the authority of their law first evaded and then defied. Pandering to a party powerful in crises, they delay all action till further delay is dangerous, and then propose a halfway meeting-point. We hope that neither party will consent to be so conciliated, and that the operatives will secure from Parliament a confirmation of the industrial relief for which they have long been eager, and which they but so recently obtained.

THE BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS for the month ending the 5th of April show an increase in the declared value of exportations of £418,089 as compared with the corresponding month of last year, and of £1,371,467 as compared with April 1848.

THE MIRROR OF PARLIAMENT.

In the Postscript of our last number, we briefly mentioned that the Benefices in Plurality Bill had been under discussion in the House of Commons, on Wednesday. Mr. HUME attempted to modify the bill in committee, by a motion taking the sense of the House on the principle that pluralities should henceforth cease and determine. Mr. Hume's principle met very general concurrence; but Sir GEORGE GREY, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT, and Mr. GLADSTONE doubted the propriety of carrying it into extreme operation immediately; recalling to mind the difference between Scotland and England in this matter—that no benefices in Scotland are under £150, whereas in England several must sometimes be united to make even a less sum. Mr. HUME took a division on an amendment embodying his principle; and was defeated, by 166 to 53. Immediately afterwards, however, Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT moved an amendment on clause 1, which made residence compulsory, in every benefice endowed with so much as £100 a-year; an improvement which Mr. HUME accepted in failure of his more sweeping proposals, and which Sir GEORGE GREY also supported, as within the spirit of the bill. On a division, this improvement was carried, by 162 to 16.

REGISTRARSHIP OF THE CANTERBURY PREROGATIVE COURT.

On the same day, Sir BENJAMIN HALL made a statement and put a question regarding the patronage of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The emoluments of the office of Registrar of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury have been from £9,000 to £12,000 a-year; the office itself is a sinecure. The usage has been, that the archbishop for the time being should nominate the incumbent of the office and two successors. Archbishop Moore appointed his two sons, and they in succession held the office. Dr. Manners Sutton appointed his grandson, the present Lord Canterbury, to the reversion of the office—that grandson being then ten or twelve years old. The late venerated Dr. Howley made a communication to the Government, that, in the conscientious fulfilment of his duty, he could not fill up the reversion of this sinecure when it became vacant in 1845; and it remained vacant at his death—not the only similar memorial of his pious self-denial. When Dr. Sumner, the present archbishop, succeeded, he found the reversion of the office vacant, and immediately filled it up, by appointing his son, a young gentleman studying in the Temple. By the 10th and 11th Victoria, c. 98, sec. 9, every such person appointed after the passing of the act is to hold office subject to the regulations made by Parliament. It is tolerably clear that Dr. Sumner, with archiepiscopal forethought, imagined that Government would not interfere; but what is the intention of Government with regard to the reversion of this office?

Lord JOHN RUSSELL assented to the correctness of Sir Benjamin's recital of the facts; and added, that there were several offices which the late Dr. Howley in like manner declined to fill up. The nature of the present office is under investigation; it appears to be one that should be either abolished or vastly altered. As to the enormous income, the young gentleman whose appointment is now in question will have no claim whatever to compensation.

In the House of Lords, on Monday night, the Archbishop of CANTERBURY alluded to the imputations that had been thrown out against him "elsewhere," for having nominated his son to the reversion of the Registrarship of the Canterbury Prerogative Court. He explained that the office to which his son stood in the succession was by no means a sinecure, and that in 1847 an act had passed placing that, among a mass of similar offices, under the control of Parliament, and therefore in nominating his relation to the reversionary enjoyment of that appointment, he simply provided for him an office regarding which the Legislature had undertaken to apportion its emoluments to the duties performed. He did not think, therefore, that his conduct was open to the censure it had suffered under.

The Bishop of LONDON corroborated the statement of the Archbishop, and called the attention of the House to the manner in which his Grace had filled up the office of registrar in the diocese of Chester as conclusive against any charge of nepotism.

AGRICULTURAL DISTRESS.

Presenting above 100 petitions from agricultural sufferers, the Duke of RICHMOND, in the House of Lords, on Thursday, renewed the irregular discussions of the preceding week on agricultural distress, particularly calling Earl Grey's attention to the appearance of sixty advertisements in a Northumberland paper for local sales of farming stock. He complained that the income-tax of the farmer is proportioned to his rent, while that of the trader is proportioned to his profits. Earl GREY replied, that nearly the same number of sales is usual at this season—the period for changing tenancies; and he quoted an instance of seventy similar sales, in a Sussex paper of September 1844, when protection was high and effective. As to the mode of levying the income-tax, Lord Grey himself complained of it when it was imposed, as unjust to the farmers; but he was overruled by the leaders of the agricultural party. The Duke of ARGYLL and the Earl of ST. GERMANS, objecting to these irregular discussions, supported the "exceptional" theory, from which such ponderous deductions had been drawn; but they concurred in thinking, that burdens must be re-adjusted, and the income-tax more justly levied on the farmer.

ATTORNIES' CERTIFICATE-DUTY.

The debate adjourned from 26th February, on the motion of Lord ROBERT GROSVENOR, for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the duty on attornies' certificates, was resumed on Thursday, and brought to a quick and unexpected conclusion. Sir CHARLES WOOD declared he could not afford the money—£117,000 a-year; especially as the attornies do not appear to be suffering under any deep or unusual distress. On a division, the original motion was carried against the Chancellor of the Exchequer, by 155 to 136. Leave therefore was given to bring in the bill. Later in the evening, the bill was read a first time.

COUNTY COURTS—EXTENDED JURISDICTION.

Sir GEORGE GREY stated to the House of Commons on Thursday, that after the House had so decidedly expressed its opinion that the jurisdiction of the County Courts ought to be extended, he would not offer any further opposition to Mr. Fitzroy's bill. The House then going into committee on the bill, the chief matters debated were the scale of fees, and the restrictions to be placed on suing for small sums in the superior courts, or the inferior local courts. The bill proposed a higher and lower scale of fees for debts above and below £20.

Sir JOHN JERVIS and Sir GEORGE GREY objected to this arrangement, and urged the House to establish uniformity on a single scale throughout.

Mr. FITZROY resisted the alteration at first; arguing that it is unjust to take as much from the man who owes £19 as from him who owes £49; but as the general feeling seemed against him, he submitted.

Mr. ROEBUCK insisted much on the advantage and propriety of doing away with fees altogether, and paying a salary for a man's whole time and undivided services.

The plan was generally applauded, and met the qualified approbation of Sir GEORGE GREY; who, however, had found that practical difficulties prevented its being carried out so far as Mr. Roebuck demands.

Mr. CROWDER opposed the provision which mulcts in costs the plaintiff who shall sue for debts under £50 in the superior courts: he would retain the present limit of £20 for that provision, and give an option above that amount.

Sir JOHN JERVIS opposed the compromise, and would not concede this "departure from the principle of the bill." No alteration was made. The clauses being agreed to, Sir John Jervis moved the addition of clauses, restricting judges from practice, requiring the residence of clerks, authorizing the Treasury to pay salary in lieu of the mode now used, and vesting subordinate appointments in the Treasury.

THE TEN HOURS BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Friday, replying to Lord Ashley, Sir G. GREY announced the intentions of Government on the Factory question. Like Lord Ashley, Government feels extreme difficulty in adhering to the present range of fifteen hours a day within which women and young persons may be employed for ten hours. Consistently with the spirit of the act of 1847, though certainly not with its letter, Sir George proposes to substitute a new limitation—a definition of the entire time of employment. At present, the *factory* may work between the hours of half-past five in the morning and half-past eight in the evening; the ten hours to be included within that time. He proposed to limit the working of the factory between six in the morning and six in the evening, and to deduct from that time an hour and a half for meals; making the time for all hands ten hours and a half daily. On Saturday, however, he would take the eight hours from six till two, omitting half an hour for breakfast, and making in the whole sixty hours in the week, in lieu of fifty-eight hours as at present. Lord JOHN MANNERS and Mr. EDWARDS protested against this, or any compromise which would add two hours to the toil of the labourer.

IRISH MEASURES.

The other business of Friday related to three Irish measures—the Distressed Unions Advances and Repayments of Advances (Ireland) Bill, the Parliamentary Voters (Ireland) Bill, and the Court of Chancery (Ireland) Bill: they were severally considered and forwarded in committee, little modified by an opposition which was urged in a comparatively moderate tone.

In the discussion of the Franchise Bill, Mr. W. J. Fox was called on by Lord CASTLEREAGH for explanation of his expression, a "social revolution," which he lately declared to be inevitable and desirable. Mr. Fox gave the explanation, amidst Ministerial cheers:—

> Not a revolution which had anything to do with bloodshed, plunder, or the destruction of venerated and useful institutions, the redistribution of property, or any such absurdities; but a change which should put talent, integrity, and legitimate influence, in the place of corruption and of intimidation in the representation of the people in that House.

In the discussion of Irish Law Reform measures, Sir JOHN ROMILLY stated, that under the power given by the Court of Chancery Bill, the Irish Lord Chancellor and Master of the Rolls will "prepare a series of orders which will effect a complete reform in the Court of Chancery."

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Monday, in reply to Mr. E. Denison, Mr. LABOUCHERE stated, as the result of mature consideration on the part of the Government, that they had adopted the principle of according to the smaller Australasian colonies a larger proportion of power than was granted by the

bill as originally introduced, if ever the proposed federal state were formed out of the union of those dependencies. Clauses prepared so as to carry out that principle would, therefore, be proposed, when the Australian Colonies Bill came on for the third reading.

On the motion for the consideration of that bill, as amended in committee, having been moved, Sir W. MOLESWORTH moved that it be re-committed for the purpose of omitting or modifying certain clauses, so as to remove the power of the Colonial-office to veto laws passed by the colonial legislature, and to define the limits of the prerogative which the home Government or their representatives were to possess over subjects of colonial policy. The hon. baronet supported his motion by a prolonged speech, in which he dwelt upon the necessity of allowing the colonists, as far as possible, free agency in the determination of questions affecting their own interests, and explained the working principles on which he proposed to distinguish between the subjects proper for local or imperial legislation.

Mr. LABOUCHERE objected to the motion, because it would occasion disturbance and discontent in the colonies, and because it was based upon a distinction of administrative questions which in practice would prove vague and unsatisfactory. He instanced several subjects which were left wholly uncertain as to their falling within "local" or "imperial" legislation. A perpetual stimulus would be thus afforded for trading agitators and popularity-hunters in the Australian colonies, who would exacerbate all the trifling points of difference that might arise between the colonists and the mother country, to the discomfort and injury of both. Sir W. Molesworth's scheme he considered to be super-refined, and not adapted for the practical government of men.

Mr. ADDERLEY urged that as we had consented to give Australia a constitution, we ought to render the gift complete by enabling the Australians to manage their local affairs for themselves.

Sir G. GREY briefly repeated the objections urged by his colleague against the motion. It introduced an element of uncertainty and discordance into the colonial constitution, and promised to perpetuate the controversies between the Government at home and the inhabitants of the dependencies.

Mr. GLADSTONE saw some difficulties in drawing a clear definition between imperial and local questions, but thought the subject so important that the legislature was called upon to encounter them. He believed that the proposition would accomplish the emancipation of the colonists from the Colonial-office, and therefore supported it.

The House divided:—For the recommittal of the bill, 42; Against it, 165—123.

Mr. GLADSTONE then moved the insertion of a clause empowering the bishop, clergy, and laity of the Church of England in any colonial diocese to meet, and by mutual consent make regulations for the conduct of their ecclesiastical affairs, guarding the enactment with various provisos. Premising that the Established Church, as it existed in these colonies, did not rest upon any intelligible or rational principle, but was rather calculated to create impediments to law and order, and to disturb men's minds, he explained the nature of the enactments he proposed, and the anomalies and evils they were intended to remedy, the state of the large religious community belonging to the Church of England in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land being, as far as ecclesiastical law was concerned, one of complete and total anarchy. If the objection to his proposition was the difficulty of its working in practice, all he could say was, let Parliament remove those impediments which lay in the way of members of the Church of England in the colonies which other religious communities did not meet with—impediments which arose out of colonial, not Imperial law.

Mr. LABOUCHERE strongly objected to the very principle of the proposition, which was to engraft upon this bill an ecclesiastical system involving points of great importance. Mr. Gladstone would establish a synod for certain purposes, independent of the Imperial Parliament and of the local Legislatures, empowered to make regulations which should have the force of laws obligatory upon members of the Church of England in the colonies. By placing that Chuch in such a position that whilst she was not treated with peculiar favour she was not subjected to any undue disadvantage, her energies would be best developed, and her native excellences made more apparent. The anomalies and grievances enumerated by Mr. Gladstone might be remedied by the local Legislatures.

Mr. A. HOPE said the argument of Mr. Labouchere, if it did not apply to the synods and assemblies of other religious communities, went to deny the power of self-action to the Episcopal Church of England, on the ground that there was something dangerous and noxious in that Church in the colonies.

Mr. ANSTEY, in a legal argument of some length, controverted the positions of Mr. Gladstone, to whose motion he objected because it interfered with the Royal prerogative.

Mr. WOOD supported the clause. The Church of England was placed in the colonies in an ambiguous position. She did not know how much of the ecclesiastical law she carried thither, and she wished to be placed in the same state of freedom as that enjoyed by other religious bodies, from which she was debarred here because she was, what she was not in the colonies, the established religion.

Mr. ROEBUCK said, under the appearance of a somewhat mysterious proposition, this was really an important question. There was a party in the country who wished to have the united Church of England and Ireland placed above the law; to have a convocation sitting beside the Parliament. This had been put down in England, and the clause was an attempt, by a side wind, to revive it in the colonies. He warned the proposers that if their professed object was carried out, it would dissolve the connexion betwixt Church and State. If they wished to be a really independent religionist body, they did not want this clause; if they belonged to the Church of England, they must submit to her ordinances.

Mr. ROUNDELL PALMER, after defending the Church of England against the tyrannical principles, as he termed them, of Mr. ROEBUCK, asked whether, it being impossible for Parliament to make the necessary regulations for the Church in the colonies, there were to be none at all. The state of the Church there was peculiar; it required modifications with reference to circumstances, and it was not unreasonable that the Church should have such power of modification. He should vote for the motion, not merely because what it proposed was necessary for the colonial Church, but also on the ground that it only gave to the Church a power which was her right.

Sir G. GREY said, he had understood if this power was granted to members of the Church of England, it must be conceded to other religious communities.

After a few remarks from Mr. ADDERLEY in support of the motion, and from Mr. HUME against it,

Mr. HUME placed above all other objects the preservation of the colonists from religious discord. He therefore recommended that Parliament should abstain from all interference, and leave the colonial assembly to legislate, if legislation should prove necessary.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL observed, the objection of Mr. Gladstone was, that there were no Church courts in the colonies; but they were not necessary for the efficiency of the Church. The members of the Church, clergy and laity, could meet in the colonies without, as supposed, incurring the pains of *præmunire*, which did not apply to the colonies. The bill conferred Legislatures upon the colonies; and the clause inserted an exception, establishing a separate jurisdiction for ecclesiastical affairs, which would interfere with the prerogative of the Crown.

Mr. WALPOLE said, the object of the clause had been totally misunderstood by the Government. As the law now stood, the colonial clergy, being within the province of Canterbury, were liable to penalties if they assembled without the sanction of the Crown.

Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply, explained the object of the clause; and, the House having divided, the clause was rejected by 187 against 102.

Clauses moved by Mr. ANSTEY and Mr. WYLD, the motions not being seconded, fell to the ground; others were deferred until the third reading; and the bill, as amended, was agreed to.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE BIRTH OF A PRINCE.—In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the Marquis of LANSDOWNE moved an Address of congratulation to her Majesty on the birth of another Prince, which was seconded by the Duke of RICHMOND, and agreed to.

A conversation then took place with regard to the Oxford and Cambridge Commission, in which Lord LANSDOWNE stated that no commission had as yet been issued, nor would it be issued without due deliberation.

The Criminal Justice Improvement Bill was read a second time, on the motion of Lord CAMPBELL.

NEW ECCLESIASTICAL TRIBUNAL.—The Bishop of LONDON, on Monday, laid upon the table a bill to amend the administration of justice in her Majesty's Privy Council in all cases of appeal on questions of false doctrine, heresy, and schism. The bill did not propose to do away with the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as a tribunal of appeal; but only directed certain references to be made in questions of appeal in cases of false doctrine. The bill was then read a first, and ordered to be read a second time on the 28th of May.

PARLIAMENTARY OATHS.—The Select Committee appointed to investigate the statutes and precedents relating to the admission of Jews or others into Parliament without their being sworn on the Gospels, have agreed on their Report. Commencing with the Oath of Supremacy prescribed to Members of Parliament by the 5th Elizabeth, c. 1, the Committee trace the history of these politico-religious tests down to the present time. They show how "An Act for the better discovering and repressing of *Popish* Recusants," passed in the third year of James I., was twisted from its original purpose, so as to repress Jews as well as Romanists. It was in this Oath that the formula "upon the true faith of a Christian" was first adopted. Throughout the modifications of these tests, introduced in successive reigns, they present to us the twin ideas of Popery and Jacobitism as constantly uppermost, and inspiring every disabling provision. So absent, indeed, from the mind of the legislature is shown to have been that intention which is now arrogated to the phrase at the end of the oath, at the expense of all that goes before it, that in the Oaths of Allegiance and Supremacy prescribed by 1st William and Mary, s. 1, c. 1, these all-important words were actually dropped altogether; nor did they again figure in any oath to be taken by members of Parliament, until the 13th William III. c. 6. Descending later in their survey, the Committee point to the test substituted in the case of Roman Catholics for the Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration, in which the words "upon the true faith of a Christian" are, as is well known, wholly dispensed with. The only precedents supplied by the journals of the House, are those of John Archdale, in 1698, and of Mr. Pease, in 1833. By the entries nothing more is known of the former than that he was elected for Chipping Wycomb, and lost his seat because he would not take the oaths. The reasons of his recusancy are not given. The case of Mr. Pease is too recent to need many words. When returned for the southern division of the county division of Durham in 1833, he declined, as a Quaker, to take the oaths; but a committee of the House decided that he was entitled to take his seat on making his solemn affirmation "to the effect" of the oaths which he would otherwise have been required to take. The Committee conclude their survey of the law and precedents of the question, by citing the liberal dictum of Lord Hardwicke:—"All that is necessary to an oath is an appeal to the Supreme Being, as thinking Him the rewarder of truth and the avenger of falsehood. This is not contradicted by any writer that I know of but Lord Coke, who has taken upon him to insert the word *Christian*, and is the only writer that has grafted this word into an oath."

THE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—On Wednesday, the first public conference of degrees by this University took place, in the presence of the Chancellor and Senate and a large number of private friends, in the hall of King's College. The Earl of Burlington, the Chancellor, occupied the chair; and amongst the distinguished persons present were—Mr. J. G. S. Lefevre, the Vice-Chancellor; the Bishop of Durham, Lord Overstone, Professor Faraday, Mr. Grote, Mr. Hallam, Mr. Macaulay, Lord Radstock, Lord Mahon, the French Ambassador, the Dean of St. Paul's, Sir H. de la Beche, Mr. Heywood, M.P.; Mr. M. Milnes, M.P., and a great number of professors and scientific gentlemen. The Report stated that in the course of the last academical year her Majesty had granted a supplemental charter, enlarging the powers previously conferred on the University, and also had placed in connexion with the University the West of England Dissenters' Proprietary School at Taunton, and St. Patrick's College at Thurles. During the past year 167 gentlemen had been admitted to matriculation, of whom eleven had distinguished themselves when under examination for honours in mathematics and natural philosophy, and one had obtained an exhibition; and four had distinguished themselves in classics, one of whom had obtained an exhibition. Twenty-five gentlemen had passed the first examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, of whom one had obtained an exhibition in anatomy and physiology, another in chemistry, and a third in materia medica and pharmaceutical chemistry; several others had distinguished themselves and obtained gold medals; thirteen gentlemen had passed the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Medicine, of whom one had obtained a scholarship; two gentlemen had passed the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Laws, of whom one had distinguished himself in jurisprudence, and had obtained the University Law Scholarship; fifty-three gentlemen had passed the examination for the degree of Bachelor of Arts, two of whom had obtained the University Scholarships; seven gentlemen had passed the examination for the degree of Master of Arts; eight had obtained the degree of Doctor of Medicine, and one that of Doctor of Laws. A number of gentlemen were then presented by the principals of their respective colleges, and admitted to various degrees; after which an address was presented to the Chancellor expressive of the thankfulness of the graduates for the benefits conferred by the University, to which Lord Burlington made a suitable reply, on the part of the Senate, observing in the course of it, that

That University had been established to recognise the great principle of rendering academical distinctions accessible to all persons, of every class and every religious denomination, and they should ill have discharged the trust reposed in them if they had not taken the best precautions in their power to insure this important result, that the degrees which they might confer should hold an honourable place in public estimation [cheers]. Accordingly, they had devoted much time to the system of examination, and they had the satisfaction of adopting regulations which had met with the approval of the managers of education in the colleges connected with the University, and those present had now also accorded their approbation of the system [cheers]. The number of degrees that they had now conferred was considerable, and he had no hesitation in stating that it was desirable that henceforward opportunities should be offered of conferring them in public, as he anticipated that that arrangement would contribute much to the advantage of the University [cheers]. It was the intention and desire of the founders that the University should take a high place amongst the great educational institutions of this country. That object must ever be kept strictly in view by those who were connected with it, but, in order that it might be fully attained, not only must the Senate act zealously in the administration of its affairs, but the future career of the graduates themselves must be such as to raise, by their character and reputation, the estimate in which the University should be held [cheers].

CATHERINE MORRIS, the young daughter of a farmer at Clapham, threw herself into one of the basins in Trafalgar-square, on Tuesday night; a passer-by saw the act, and managed to get her out when life was almost gone. The young woman was found to be religiously insane; she said she had been baptising herself in the pool.

MR. J. HORN TWIZELL, eldest son of the member for South Shields, was found dead in a shallow stream near Hexham, on Saturday week. From the evidence given at the inquest, it appeared that he had fallen into the water in a fit of apoplexy, to which he was subject.

FOREGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

The Late Election for Paris.—The Proclamation of the successful candidate for the department of the Seine was made on Thursday morning. The numbers officially announced are—for Eugene Sue, 127,812; for Leclerc, 119,726. The Socialist papers had recommended the people to abstain from assembling in large bodies on the spot. The *mot d'odre* was obeyed, and there were comparatively very few persons present. The open advocacy of Imperialism by the *Napoléon* seems to be at last regarded as inopportune. It is stated that the newspaper has been suppressed, and that the fact was announced by the President himself to the conductors.

Proposed Modification of the Electoral Law.—The Paris *Moniteur*, of Thursday, caused astonishment by announcing that the Minister of the Interior has formed a commission charged with the preparation of a project of law upon the reforms necessary to be introduced into the electoral law. The names that follow consist exclusively of Legitimists and Orleanists. The law was to be presented in the Assembly yesterday. The reporter of the committee is M. de Broglie. The propositions are likely to be milder than the composition of the committee would have warranted men to expect. One provision of the bill is, that a candidate to be elected member, at the first ballot, must poll an absolute majority. A simple majority would be admitted at the following ballots. The other clauses refer chiefly to domiciliary conditions. The franchise of the army will not be touched: only the military votes will merge in the civic and not be published separately. The *Ordre* states that the *Tiers-parti*, of which it is the organ, will vote for a wise and effectual electoral reform, but will certainly oppose such schemes as are put forward by the *Patrie*, and other papers of the extreme reactionary party. The latest state of the poll in the elections of the Saone-et-Loire gives, for the democratic list, 57,000; for the moderate, 33,649 votes.

In the Assembly, on Thursday, the grant of 2,629,910 francs was voted for the expeditionary force in Italy, by a majority of 462 to 198. M. Lamartine voted in the opposition. M. Farand, major of a battalion of the expeditionary army, made a remarkable speech, protesting against the violence with which the will of the Roman people had been put down. He maintained that the Papal Government had been restored against the wishes of the vast majority of the nation. General Oudinot contradicted this assertion, and dwelt on the victory of the French troops. General Cavaignac voted with the Right.

The festival of the 4th of May went off without the least disturbance or accident. The weather was singularly favourable. The only fine spring day we have had jumped with the *fête*. All was warm, radiant, and joy-inspiring. The sinister predictions of reactionary journals were splendidly belied.

SPAIN.

The Spanish correspondence exhibits a repetition of those stories of mingled political and social intrigue which seem peculiar to the Peninsular capital. The King Consort has again been made the instrument of the priestly party to attempt the overthrow of the Christina-Narvaez Cabinet. He suddenly notified his renewed intention to absent himself from Madrid during his wife's accouchement—an innuendo which appeared to signify that he held his wife's virtue cheap. The threat was deemed so grave as to call for the most strenuous measures. Force and address were combined: General Narvaez placed soldier guards at every door of the palace, and held the King an actual prisoner in his own mansion; while Queen Christina plied him with persuasions of four hours' duration. The King was overcome, and in the end yielded so far that his revolt only placed his opponents in higher strength over him: he consented to remain in Madrid, was taken in tears to his wife's presence, and at last drove out by her side in a carriage, to show the trust and affection which just before he had so little felt.

ITALY.

Rome.—On April 18th, the Pope blessed the French army at Rome. A large and handsome balcony was erected in front of St. Peter's, and 10,000 French troops occupied the great square. The Pope appeared at the great doors of the church about half-past four o'clock, and in an instant the whole of the army presented arms, kneeling on one knee, while the Castle of St. Angelo commenced a salute of 101 guns. When he stretched forth his hands, saying, "Benedictio Dei omnipotentis." &c., "thousands were quite overcome with emotion, and several of the soldiers burst into tears." The correspondent of the *Daily News* asserts that the crowd which welcomed the Pope on his entrance to Rome consisted of seven or eight thousand priests and monks, reinforced by the police, and as many thieves and vagabonds as they could muster. The people kept away. The people did not illuminate. "This is the real truth; all the rest is official *mensonge*." The *Morning Chronicle* confirms this statement, and says, the aversion to the Pope is so great that the people, when they see him approach, "run under doorways and into shops to avoid him." Advices of the 27th ult. give a very hopeless account of the financial state. A conference between Messrs. de Rothschild and the Minister Galli on the 26th was attended with no satisfactory result, so that the loan was still at a stand-still. Imprisonment and deprivation of office were going on without any mitigation from the clemency of the Pope, or the intercession of General Baraguay d'Hilliers, whose departure was fixed for the 5th.

Piedmont.—In Piedmont the Government, having carried through the Chambers a law abolishing certain holydays, and affecting the *status* of the ecclesiastical body, the episcopate protested, and the Archbishop of Turin issued a circular to his clergy forbidding them, without leave from their ordinaries, to appear or give evidence, when summoned, in lay courts of justice. The circular has been suppressed by authority, a number of copies being seized by the police in the archbishop's own palace. The Government also contemplates the confiscation of several monastic establishments.

Tuscany.—The *Statuto* of the 20th instant announces that the dispute between the British and Tuscan Governments was on the eve of arrangement, thanks to the good offices of M. Walewski, the French Minister at Florence.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government have decided on a continuance of the state of siege in Vienna.

The *Wiener Zeitung* contains the decree by which a voluntary loan is declared to be opened in the Lombardo-Venetian territory.

The members of the Order of the Society of Jesus have been publicly and officially recalled to the Austrian dominions. The Verona papers publish Radetzky's brevet of installation which he granted to the members of the order; similar measures are taken in the other provinces. A large college, like to that of Freiburg, is about to be established in Bohemia, and missions, chiefly for educational purposes, are being founded in Prague, Olmutz, Budweiss, Linz, Wiener Neustadt, Gratz, Salzburg, Cilli, Innspruck, Bregenz, Trent, Görz, Agram, Zara, Arad, Pesth, Lemberg, and Krakau.

GERMANY.

A letter from Erfurt, dated the 30th, says that the Gotha party have appointed a permanent committee to watch the proceedings of the Governments, and if necessary to call the party together again. The Right have also left a permanent committee at Erfurt.

The *Kölnische Zeitung* contains a telegraphic communication from Berlin, dated May 1, stating, on reliable authority, that a congress of the princes united in the Erfurt Bund will be opened on the 8th instant, at Berlin. A protest against this proceeding will, it is said, be issued by Austria, claiming exclusively for the congress summoned by that power to Frankfort the attributes of the diet of the confederation, and assuming the right of Austria to seize again the old presidential prerogatives granted by the treaties of 1815, and to exercise them in the affairs of Germany.

TURKEY.

Letters from Constantinople of the 17th ult. in the *Deutsche Zeitung*, states that the Bosnian insurrection is progressing at a very alarming rate. The Pashas of Zwornik and Fouzla have joined the rebels, and the Turkish Government has been compelled to send troops from Monaster and Shumla into Bosnia. Another insurrection against the Sultan's authority has broken out in Kourdistan.

Ahmed Effendi, the Turkish Commissioner in the Danubian Principalities, is making energetic though useless efforts to induce the Russians to reduce the garrison of those provinces to 10,000 men instead of to 20,000. General Lüders left Bucharest on the 22nd of March. The present Russian commander in the Danubian Principalities is General Hassfort.

RUSSIA.

Letters from Warsaw assert that the Emperor Nicholas will arrive there on the 7th instant, and that after the return of the Emperor of Austria from Trieste he will proceed to Warsaw to confer with his imperial brother. Owing to the recent discovery of another conspiracy against Russia, passports are refused to most applicants; only a few merchants and foreigners can obtain them.

WEST INDIES.

The West Indian Mail, from St. Thomas's on the 14th April, brings news of an anti-convict agitation commenced at Turk's Island. The Jamaica *Morning Journal* prints their Petition to Earl Grey, loudly and earnestly protesting against the intention to introduce convict labour among them.

Jamaica papers extend to the 7th ult. The want of rain in nearly every part of the island was much felt; but throughout the whole country rain clouds were gathering.

British Guiana papers are to the 4th of April. The colony was very quiet. The Combined Court had been busily engaged in disposing of the estimates for 1850, arranged on a much more liberal scale than was anticipated. The court adjourned to the 10th ult. One of the points at issue between Earl Grey and the authorities and people of Guiana relates to the clerical salaries. When they wished to reduce the Civil List, they were rebuked by his Lordship for not first reducing the other public salaries which were within their control. They took the hint, and diminished, among others, the clerical salaries, to the amount of some 20 per cent. For this step, they are called to account, in a despatch from Earl Grey to Governor Barkly, dated December 15, 1849; in which it is intimated that, unless they restore to the clergy of Guiana their full salaries, they shall have no more immigrants! The pretext for this is a transparent sham. "I ought to make you fully aware," says his Lordship, "that I regard the efficiency of the Ecclesiastical Establishments as among the most essential of the means by which we shall be enabled to secure the well-being of the immigrants, as well as the success of immigration in promoting the prosperity of the colony. I shall be anxious to learn, therefore, what may be the ultimate decision of the Combined Court in regard to reductions of the provision for the clergy; and I trust that no reductions will be resolved upon, which will tend to make British Guiana less fitted than other West Indian colonies for the reception of captured Africans or other immigrants."

THE IONIAN ISLES.

Extraordinary Correspondence.—The *Corfu Gazette*, of the 11th April, gives the speech delivered by the President of the Legislative Assembly, Count Candiano Roma, in answer to Sir Henry Ward's address, and Sir Henry Ward's reply to the answer. The two documents are remarkable. The address, saying nothing about the new constitution, first requests information on the differences between Great Britain and Greece, of which the Assembly has heard with profound grief. From this "legitimate desire" it "descends" to the matters which may occasion the chief labours of the session,—namely, a more comprehensive provision to surround the Church with proper state; a law for universal gratuitous education; and fresh enactments to "guarantee personal liberty," and "prevent for ever a renewal of the deplorable excesses of which the island of Cephalonia has recently offered a mournful example." It concludes with an aspiration for that "distant future when the arbitress of the seas shall erect a trophy more glorious still than that raised at Navarino; when it shall, with Europe, just and grateful, have united in one body all the scattered members of the Greek family, which, though divided by policy, have, in common, origin, language, religion, recollections, and hopes." Sir Henry Ward felt forced to the "unusual duty of a reply," lest silence should be misconstrued. He rebukes the Assembly for the "strange" omission of "one word of thanks, or even courtesy towards her Majesty," to acknowledge the political concessions so cheerfully granted; answers the "unmistakeable, though intentionally obscure" paragraph regarding the police law, with a rapid review of the part he took in relation to the late insurrection; and concludes with a declaration that the "injustice" of the Assembly had "deeply wounded him," and would retard a settlement he would have been the first to promote if sought in a spirit of conciliation and good faith. The allusion to the event in the "distant future" he dismisses with the remark, that when it occurs, the British Parliament will no doubt be willing to see the Ionians resume their place as members of the "new power" that would then take its place in the policy of the world.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The overland mail brings news from Bombay to April 3; from Calcutta, to March 25; from Canton, to March 7. The Affreedies of Kohat have gained an important moral success; two thousand of them regularly invested a hill-fort in which the British had left a garrison; and they so reduced the men for want of water, that Captain Coke, the senior officer of the district, negotiated for their withdrawal, and evacuated the stronghold on the 31st March. Sir Charles Napier was at Lahore on the 22nd March.

Lord Dalhousie returned to Calcutta on the 7th March, with health quite restored by his extensive progress round the circuit of our Eastern dominions.

It is at last satisfactory to hear of active signs of a commencement of railways in India. The Bombay Railway, though not in actual progress, is yet under survey and decision for the actual line from the terminus; and there is nothing to prevent its partial execution before the rains set in, as there can be very little levelling required at the commencement. The Calcutta people seem still undecided as to their line, some advocating one, and some another.

Commander Lockyer, of the "Medea" war-steamer, has attacked and demolished a force of thirteen piratical junks, off China, mounting about 120 guns, and manned by 900 men; 220 pirates were killed and 20 made prisoners, "with not a single casualty on our side."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Prince Adalbert of Prussia has just contracted a morganatic marriage with Mademoiselle Therese Elssler, the sister of the celebrated *danseuse*. The King of Prussia has allowed the bride to take the name of Von Barnim for herself and her children. The parties have cohabited for many years. Report states that another Royal Prince of Prussia is about to ally himself in a similar manner with an actress.

The Sandwich Islands were visited, on the 28th of December, by a severe gale, which destroyed many houses, stripped the trees bare, and injured the sugar plantations. A census of population, taken at Hawaii, shows that the natives, who are now 80,000 in number, are decreasing steadily at the rate of 8 per cent. yearly.

A Republican Movement, says the *Hamburg Free Press*, has broken out in Iceland, and the Danish governor has been driven away. The maintenance of the commercial monopoly of Copenhagen, of which the Icelanders have long complained, is the cause of the outbreak. Two steamers have been sent with troops to chastise the insurgents.

Dr. Duff.—This distinguished missionary arrived at Sonthampton by the "Indus" steamer from Bombay, on the 23rd ult. His health is not such as to admit his proceeding immediately to Scotland,

[*Continued from p.* 377].

encouraging indications were recognised. The Report concluded with an earnest appeal for enlarged and liberal support.

Mr. J. A. Smith, M.P., moved the adoption of the Report. He contended that spiritual education, combined with secular, must, if they were not blind, force itself upon the minds of the whole of the English public. If they were not insensible to the value of circumstances which met them on continental Europe, with heart and voice England would admit that the education of the people in the knowledge of religion and their social duties was far above the claims of any church, of any sect, however pure and beautiful she might be [cheers].

The Rev. G. Smith seconded the Report, and it was unanimously agreed to.

Other resolutions, expressive of gratitude for the continued favour and patronage of the Queen and Prince Albert, and also to the Duke of Bedford, the Earl of Carlisle, and Sir T. Colebrook, were likewise agreed to; in the course of proposing which the Rev. G. Pennington, the Rev. W. Chalmers, Mr. Tooke, and others, addressed the meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION.

The first session of the annual meeting of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, was held yesterday at New Broad-street Chapel, City. We had announced our intention to give a full report of the proceedings, and on Monday evening made application to the Committee for a reporter's ticket. Yesterday morning we received the following reply:—

"Congregational Library, May 6, 1850.

"Dear Sir,—The Committee of the Congregational Union do not employ reporters for their meetings, and, as such, your reporter cannot be admitted. If a member of a church, he can be admitted to the gallery as a visitor, by obtaining a ticket, which he can do at the Chapel, Broad-street, to-morrow morning.

"I am, yours, in great haste,

"E. Miall, Esq." "Robert Ashton."

Prior to the opening of the proceedings, our reporter presented himself, and, in fact, obtained admission to the visitors' gallery, where he saw several parties taking notes of the proceedings. He had not long been there before he was requested to retire, on the ground that he had not obtained a visitor's ticket, which were only obtainable by members of churches. Under these circumstances we have been unable to give a full report of the proceedings, but have been obliged to gather up the best outline we could from the recollections and notes of gentlemen present. If any injustice is done to the speakers, the fault must be attributed to the unexpected and absurd restriction imposed by the committee.

The number of ministers and delegates present was upwards of 400. The gallery was occupied by visitors, a considerable proportion of whom were ladies.

The chair was taken at half-past nine, a.m., by Dr. Morison who, after a short introductory prayer, opened the proceedings with a lengthened address, the reading of which occupied nearly an hour and a half. As we understand the address will be printed, it is unnecessary to give an abstract of it on the present occasion.

Dr. Burder, of Hackney, in moving that the address of the Chairman be printed with the Minutes of the Assembly, referred to the various topics on which it touched, and, after praising Dr. Morison for the able service he had rendered to the Church, by means of the *Evangelical Magazine*, stated that he could not forget the publications more especially connected with the Union, and said he had never read them with more delight than recently—an observation which was met with significant marks of disapprobation from a large proportion of the meeting.

The resolution was briefly seconded by Dr. Redford, of Worcester.

The Rev. Thomas James, in the absence of the Rev. A. Wells through indisposition, acted as secretary, and introduced the names of Dr. Wardlaw from the Congregational Union of Scotland, and the Rev. C. G. Finney, of Oberlin, U. S., author of "Lectures on Revivals," both of whom were received by the Chairman in the name of the assembly.

The Rev. A. Reed, of Norwich, begged to ask why the printed *agenda* of the meeting had not been circulated amongst the members.

The Rev. T. James stated, that in consequence of the indisposition of Mr. Wells, the *agenda* had been omitted, and proceeded to read the order of business as follows: The Report for the past year—the publications—British Missions—the working classes—the Marriage Bill, and the Metropolitan Interments Bill, *seriatim*.

The Report, which occupied a considerable time in reading, commenced with a reference to the last autumnal meeting, and dwelt with much feeling upon the uninterrupted intercourse which the Union have always maintained with their brethren in Scotland. It stated that the publications of the Union were steadily progressing, and that them were increasingly appreciated—that the profits arising from the *Christian Witness* and *Penny Magazine* had, during the last year, amounted to £219 upwards of £400 of this sum had yesterday been divided among a number of aged ministers, the remainder had been added to the fund for assisting ministers in purchasing Long Annuities after they had reached the age of sixty. The Report further stated that the attempt made last year to bring Christianity into contact with the minds of the working classes had been highly encouraging—that the scheme for collecting the statistics of Sabbath-schools had been delayed by the indisposition of their secretary—and that the next autumnal meeting would be held in Southampton, the birthplace of the celebrated Dr. Watts.

The Rev. E. R. Conder, of Poole, moved that the Report be adopted, and that special attention be recommended to that part which refers to the annual payment of the churches and members of the Union. In doing so he adverted to the high principles that characterised the denomination, involving a proportionate responsibility. The excellency of the principles held by the body was attended with a corresponding danger, lest they might not be consistently maintained in character and deportment. After all, the main thing was the spirit of the religious life animating their principles. Without that they were a matter comparatively unimportant.

The Rev. J. A. James, of Birmingham, in seconding the motion, referred in terms of eulogy to the preceding speaker, and expressed his benevolent wishes respecting his younger brethren in the ministry. He glanced at the several points touched upon in the Report, expressing his approval of them, and concluded with expressing his earnest desire for the prosperity of the Union. He hoped that, if any differences of opinion might arise, they might be expressed in a calm and Christian spirit.

The Rev. A. Reed, of Norwich, rose in the body of the meeting, and moved, as an amendment, the addition to the resolution of the following words:—"And that the committee be instructed to make arrangements by which, with due regard to the property, the *Christian Witness* and *Penny Magazine* may cease to be the official organs of the Congregational Union." The announcement of the amendment was received with loud cheers. Mr. Reed stated, that he did this at the present moment, rather than at a time when any motion referring to Dr. Campbell might be brought forward, in order that, as far as possible, the question might be freed from personalities. He disclaimed any wish to argue the question of these magazines in connexion with recent controversies, but upon the broad general ground, as to whether a body like the Congregational Union should, in the estimation of the British public, be committed to the sentiments of one man, however eminent his position or sound his judgment; and, with great ability and good taste, he was maintaining that the Union ought not to be so committed, when

Dr. Massie rose to order, and said that, according to the rules by which the business of the Union was conducted, no new matter could be introduced without the consent of the Business Committee, and strengthened his statement by reading the rule.

Considerable excitement now became evident in the meeting; and, on the ground that Mr. Reed's proposition arose naturally from the Report, and in the shape of a real amendment to the resolution, it was ultimately agreed that he was not out of order.

Mr. Reed resumed by stating that it was not easy to resume an interrupted speech, and hoped the meeting would hear him out with patience. The *Christian Witness* was considered as the organ of the Union, and many felt that they were placed in a wrong position by appearing to lend their sanction to the various opinions expressed in it. The arrangement which had formerly been made when a similar difficulty presented itself was by no means satisfactory. It would be perceived on reading the title-page of the magazine that it was announced as the official organ of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, at the top; while beneath were the following words—"For the general contents the editor is responsible." These two statements, in fact, neutralized one another. He did not conceive that any method could be adopted by which the contents of the magazine could be publicly regarded as expressing the private opinions of the editor, except by separating its connexion with the Union. What he thought should be done was, that the magazine should be put in trust, like the *Evangelical* and other magazines, by means of which the proceeds might still subserve the purpose to which they were devoted. He thought that no great difficulty would be found in making such an arrangement. The funds would not suffer, and the editor, he thought, would really be more free than under the present arrangement. For his part, he considered that an editor ought to be free to deliver his opinions according to his own conviction and judgment—only let it be understood that those opinions are the editor's, and that he alone is responsible for them. He thought that such a plan would tend materially to maintain the unity of the members composing that body, and prove beneficial both to the magazines and the Union. He hoped that he should not be considered as a "firebrand" in making that proposition. His aim really was, to maintain the truth and promote the advancement of the body. He regretted to say that some had retired from the Union because they felt themselves committed, under the present arrangement, to opinions which they did not hold, more especially to recent proceedings which he need not particularize. Such a measure as the one now contemplated would be the means of preventing such secessions, and tend to their further prosperity. He hoped that nothing had been said which evinced any other than the spirit of the preceding speakers. Mr. Reed concluded a speech of great feeling, which was frequently cheered, and sat down amidst loud applause.

The Rev. J. Fletcher, of Christchurch, then ascended the platform, amid the cheers of the meeting, to second the amendment, agreeing, as he did, in the terms of it, and in the views which had been expressed by Mr. Reed. He did not wish to make the question a personal one. So far as he was concerned, he would rather not have stood there in the position of an antagonist, even in appearance, to Dr. Campbell. Neither did he mean to say, that the *Christian Witness* and *Penny Magazine*, had not, in several particulars, rendered essential service to the cause of truth. There were, however, higher considerations than those that terminated in what was personal and particular, and it was in reference to those that he was prepared to second the proposition that had been made. He considered that the character and stability of the Union itself was involved in the question now before the meeting. That Union occupied a public position, as well as a limited place in relation to its own operations. The *Witness* was regarded as the official organ of the Union, and the merely private opinions of the editor were imputed to the denomination at large. True, it was stated on the cover, that the editor was responsible for the general contents. But no clear line of demarcation was drawn between what was general and what was official, and the public were not to be expected to make the distinction, even if it were drawn. It was enough for them that the magazine was the organ of the body. The chief difficulty in dealing with this question arose from the property that was involved in it. He certainly did not wish that property to be withdrawn from the benevolent operations of the Union, if it could be avoided; but the mere question of property ought not to influence our judgment on the higher question. Indeed, the very connexion between pecuniary interest, and what he deemed to be principle, rendered it all the more needful that they should endeavour to come to a perfectly just conclusion. For his part, he did not think it right that the private opinions of an individual should be imputed to the body of which the magazine was the official organ. Neither did he think it fair that the opinions of a single individual should be circulated throughout the churches of the denomination, and have power to influence their minds, on various important questions, not simply on the ground of truth and reason, but through an artificial arrangement in connexion with the sanction of the Congregational Union of England and Wales. Much harm had been done in previous times and other instances by such a method as this—the opinion of individual minds being sustained and buttressed by confederations similar to ours, and obtaining a wide diffusion and sway, that would never have been derived through the natural and logical processes of reason and argument. It was high time that this sanction to private opinions should be withdrawn, by an arrangement which might be entrusted to the Committee of the Union. Already, some had left the Union, on account of these things. Henceforth, let nothing go forth in the name of the Union, but what had received its sanction at public Conference. The Union had been characterized as flourishing—as having passed its babyhood and reached its manhood. Let them act, then, in a manly manner, in reference to this question. Independents had a high position to maintain. They had suffered much in defence of their liberties in previous periods; let it be their aim now, and especially in prospect of the great work which they were aspiring to accomplish for their country and their age, to preserve themselves and their Union free from all imputations on the one hand, and from all impediments on the other, affecting their liberty, their unity, and their success [loud cheers]. He begged leave to second the amendment.

The Chairman then rose and said, that in the present discussion his simple duty would be to preserve order, without expressing his own private opinions; but he would observe that the amendment took the meeting by surprise, and he might be permitted to say that as the proposition was one respecting the farming of the magazines, he would put it to them to consider whether the Union would not be as much responsible for their contents as under the present arrangement, while the editor would be less responsible. At present, the editor was under the control of the Union. The proposed arrangement would entirely alter his position in that respect. He referred to his own editorship of the *Evangelical Magazine*, by way of illustration, when

The Rev. T. Davies, of York-road Chapel, rose to order, and submitted whether it was the province of the Chairman to take part in this discussion; upon which the Chairman abstained from making further observations, and said, that he hoped to discharge his duties as Chairman with a due regard to impartiality.

The Rev. Dr. MASSIE then rose to suggest some alteration of the resolution, which would have the effect of submitting the question to the consideration of the committee to ascertain its practicability, whereupon

The Rev. J. B. BROWN, objected to such alteration, and expressed his opinion that the real question before them should be honestly canvassed and fairly discussed. He thought that on such a matter there ought to be a manly expression of opinion on their part, that the question should be settled there and then. He deprecated the idea of having it left an open question for six months, to be agitated amongst the churches connected with the Union. Everybody knew what was meant by the motion, and he thought they were quite prepared to come to a decision at once.

Mr. HAYDEN supported the amendment, in a brief but decided speech.

The Rev. T. BINNEY suggested the insertion of the words "if possible" in the resolution, that the committee might ascertain if such an arrangement could be made.

The Rev. G. SMITH, of Poplar, hoped that the meeting would not decide hastily upon a question of so much importance, but would, according to precedent, hand the resolution over to the committee of the Union for consideration, to be presented to the Conference at the next autumnal meeting.

Dr. VAUGHAN, President of the Lancashire Independent College, rose, amidst much applause, and assured the meeting that he was not chargeable with Dr. Campbell's recent conversion, although some parties had accused him of it. It would be in the recollection of those who were acquainted with the origin of the magazines, that he had from the first been opposed to their present constitution. The proposed change, therefore, was but in accordance with the views he had all along maintained on the subject. He trusted, however, the meeting would bear in mind what was due to a public man, and that they would deal with Dr. Campbell in a generous manner, and with a high sense of what was honourable and fair to one who had served the body well.

The Rev. T. DAVIES spoke at some length in favour of the proposed change, hoping that it would not be submitted to the committee of the Union of which Dr. Campbell was a member. He was opposed to the insertion of the words "if possible" (as suggested by Mr. Binney) into the body of the amendment. These words, he considered, meant just this, that if they could retain the principle and the property they would do so, but if not, they would hold to the property and abandon the principle.

The Rev. T. W. DAVIDS, of Colchester, said it was evident that there was but one feeling in the meeting in respect to the proposed alteration.

After some further discussion, in which Dr. Redford, the Rev. T. Binney, and Mr. White, of Hereford, took part,

Dr. CAMPBELL, rose amidst cheers. He commenced by stating that he intuitively comprehended the purport of the amendment, and the spirit of its supporters. He would say, however, that he stood there that morning a prouder man than at any former meeting of the Union. He could look back upon his conduct during the last twelve months with greater feelings of satisfaction than upon any other period of his public life. Those who said that the Union were responsible for the contents of the magazines referred to were not sincere. Everybody knew the extent to which the sanction of the Union extended. There were a certain number of pages of small type, headed "Chronicle of the Congregational Union," and for these alone the Union was responsible; for the remainder everybody knew that he alone was responsible. There had not been during the last twelve months a single article in the *Penny Magazine* upon which there would be any difference of opinion amongst the individuals comprising this meeting, and only one such article had appeared during the last twelve months in the pages of the *Christian Witness*. Some one had spoken of his needing a buttress; he needed no buttress. He stood erect in his physical nature; he stood erect in his moral nature; and he stood erect in his spiritual nature. He thought that the subject under discussion was of a very simple nature. He had only to draw his pen through the words "the official organ of the Congregational Union of England and Wales," which appeared on the title page, and the matter would be settled. He looked with pleasure upon his connexion with these magazines, the profits upon which had already amounted to £7,000; and he was ready to take the magazines into his own hands, and devote, as heretofore, the surplus profits to the same benevolent purposes to which they had previously been applied. At the close of his speech, of which the above is an imperfect, but we believe a correct outline, Dr. Campbell resumed his seat amidst general applause.

Some further discussion ensued, in the course of which the Rev. G. W. CONDER, of Leeds, said, that the supporters of the amendment had been taunted with taking up the question in connexion with recent events; but he could assure the meeting on his own behalf and on behalf of many others whose opinions he expressed, that he had entertained those views long before the events alluded to. With respect to the haste which had been deprecated by some of the preceding speakers, it would be remembered that the discussion on the question had been so often before them, that he believed very few individuals in the meeting had not previously made up their minds on the subject.

The Rev. R. AINSLIE remarked that Dr. Campbell had not the power, as had been suggested, of striking out the words which indicated the official connexion of the magazines with the Union. They were the property of the Union, and could only be dealt with by the Union.

A desultory conversation ensued relating to the wording of the amendment, several emendations of a qualifying nature being suggested by various speakers, all of which were ultimately set aside; and on the suggestion of the Rev. J. PARSONS, of York, the following amendment was adopted in the form of a rider to the original resolution without a dissentient voice amidst loud acclamation.

That the Committee of the Union be instructed to consider the best means by which the *Christian Witness* and the *Christian's Penny Magazine* may no longer be regarded as the official organs of the Congregational Union, and to report on the subject to the Autumnal Meeting of the Union.

The usual vote of thanks to Dr. Campbell, as editor of the magazines, was moved by the Rev. GEORGE SMITH, who said that the resolution which he held in his hand had gone a begging round the platform. He found a great many names written on the back of it, but he supposed all were afraid of the hostility it would bring down upon the mover [loud laughter]. After some further remarks, in praise of Dr. Campbell, the resolution was seconded by the Rev. J. KENNEDY, of Stepney, and supported by the Rev. J. A. JAMES, who said he considered Dr. Campbell had not been done justice to in the assembly. He looked upon him as a bulwark of orthodoxy and Congregational principles.

The resolution was then put, and carried with much applause and great good humour.

Dr. CAMPBELL then rose, and with great solemnity said that he supposed he must consider this as his valedictory address [cries of "No, no"]. They were about to part company. He felt that this meeting had *not* done him justice; but the country would, the church of God would, and posterity would.

The great majority of the delegates and members here left, and the remainder of the sitting, till half-past two, was taken up in the reading of a short paper on "British Missions," and the resolution founded on it.

The meeting then adjourned to Friday morning.

BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTION FOR SCOTLAND. The fourth session of this institution—the object of which is to afford young men, members of Baptist churches in Scotland, desirous of labouring in the ministry of the gospel, the education requisite to their efficiency in the work—having just closed, meetings were held on its behalf on Thursday, April 25th, in the Great Waterloo Room, Edinburgh. Mr. James Taylor, of East Regent-street chapel, Glasgow, preached in the afternoon, and in the evening a soirée was held, when about 500 sat down to tea. Mr. Francis Johnston, pastor of the church meeting in the Waterloo Rooms, and tutor of the institution, presided, and was, previous to his opening the business of the meeting, presented, by Mr. Peter Sinclair, in the name of the church, with a splendid Bible, and a purse containing a sum of money in gold, in token of the church's regard for his person and labours. Having acknowledged the gifts, the chairman stated the object of the meeting, and said that nine students had been in attendance during the past session, and had gone through studies in Greek and Hebrew, Scripture translation and exposition, theology, church history, &c. Mr. J. Simpson, evangelist of the Baptist Union of Scotland, then addressed the meeting, on the subject of "An efficient Ministry;" and was followed by Mr. Taylor, of Glasgow, on "An efficient Christian Church;" Mr. J. H. Milner, secretary of the academy; Mr. J. Pearson, A.M., Baptist minister, Leith; and Mr. Robert Macmaster, of the academy, on various appropriate subjects. It was stated during the evening, that the management of the institution is of the most economical character, £150 having covered the expenses of the past year. At both meetings collections were made on behalf of the funds.

CHRISTIAN YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION.—On Tuesday morning, April 30, at six o'clock, upwards of one thousand of the friends and supporters of this association met, and partook of breakfast, in the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, after which the annual general meeting was held in the Great Hall, the Hon. A. Kinnaird in the chair. There could not have been less than 2,000 persons at the public meeting. From the report, it appeared that, during the past year, the total receipts had been £2,151 6s. 3d., being an increase over the previous year of £1,542. The expenditure amounted to £2,120, of which sum £250 had been spent in the formation of a library for the use of the members, leaving a balance in the hands of the treasurer of £30. The average weekly attendance at lectures was about 200. The total number of young men who have joined is upwards of 3,000; and no less than 50,000 books have been distributed to them from the reading-rooms, in Gresham-street, City. Various resolutions, pledging those present to support the association, moved and seconded by the Rev. W. W. Champneys, rector of Whitechapel; the Rev. D. Macafee, of Dublin; the Rev. S. Martin, &c., were then passed, and the meeting separated after a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—Yesterday week, the anniversary meeting of the friends of this society was held at Exeter-hall, the Earl of Chichester in the chair. The meeting having been opened in the usual form, the chairman briefly addressed them, and the Report (a very voluminous document) was read. After adverting in general terms to the utility and extent of the society, the Report directed attention to the opening of the Missionary Children's Home, as being an institution which had long been required in connexion with the society, and one calculated to do a great deal of good. In Sierra Leone a large new church had been opened at Freetown, and a new station had been occupied at Wilberforce. At Yaruba the number of converts had greatly increased, and although those who had become members of the Christian religion were subjected to every severity of persecution, they remained firm adherents to the faith. New openings had occurred for missionary operations in Syria, and Jerusalem would very probably be connected with missions in Egypt and Asia Minor. Missionary tours had been made into Eastern Africa, and curious discoveries made in the interior. In Western India many natives were in preparation for the ministry, and a mission to Scinde was proposed. In Calcutta and Northern India measures had been taken for a mission into the Punjab and to Bahar, and in Southern India, especially at Tinnevelly and Travancore, great progress had been made by the society. In Ceylon and China also the missions were doing well, and in New Zealand the converts had greatly increased, and native education was making rapid progress. The Bishop of Rupert's Land had arrived in North West America. The missions now occupied 87 English clergymen (of whom 21 were graduates of English or Irish Universities), 42 natives of the continent in English orders, five in Lutheran orders, and 13 native clergymen, and 27 European laymen, catechists, secretaries, &c. The attendants at Christian worship in the Society's Missions throughout the world were estimated at 107,000; the communicants at 13,000; the number of children under Christian education, 40,000. During the past year the number of baptisms had been 5,554; the increase in the number of communicants (omitting the West India station, relinquished) was 543. The income of the society was, from associations, benefactions, and legacies, £92,259 2s. 2d., and from other funds £2,141 8s. 9d., giving a total for the United Kingdom of £94,400 10s. 11d.; £9,872 14s. 11d. had been raised in India, giving a total income of £104,273 6s. 10d. Although a falling off had occurred in several sources of income, there had been an increase in others, and after the payment of all expenses there remained a balance in favour of the society of £818 4s. 9d. On the motion of the Rev. Dr. Marsh, of Leamington, seconded by the Hon. M. Villiers, the Report was received and adopted. Other gentlemen then addressed the meeting, which thanked the chairman at the close of the proceedings and separated. There were 4,000 persons in the hall. Amongst those on the platform were Mr. Plumptre, M.P., Mr. Colquhoun, M.P., the Hon. A. Kinnaird, and Sir R. H. Inglis, M.P., besides many distinguished clergymen of the Established Church.

LONDON SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUNG FEMALES.—On Monday, the fifteenth anniversary of the establishment of this society, whose benevolent object is well expressed in its title, was celebrated at the London Tavern. The attendance was smaller than is usual upon occasions of this nature, and smaller than would be anticipated in our metropolis, considering the purpose of the institution, and the undoubted magnitude of the evil to be coped with. In the absence of Sir Culling Eardley, from illness, Lord R. Grosvenor occupied the chair. In proposing success to the institution, his lordship feelingly adverted to the great moral canker which it sought to eradicate, and intimated that at the present moment 70 young girls, under fifteen years of age, who, in all probability, would have become the victims of prostitution, were now being fed, clothed, religiously educated, and fitted for respectable servitude, in the asylum at Tottenham. The hateful and yet to uninformed and uninstructed minds, the alluring vice was, until the establishment of the present institution, like the cave of the robber of classical history, to whose den, surrounded with roses, many steps hastened, but whence none were found to return. This society, by waging war alike against the procurer and the owners of those filthy establishments where crime and shame were consummated, had effected a vast amount of good, though with limited means, no fewer than 550 females under 15 years of age having been rescued from ruin, whilst a large number of improper houses had been suppressed. The present asylum would accommodate at least thirty more inmates than it now contained, and numerous applications were constantly being made from young creatures, who could not be received for want of funds. He sincerely trusted that the committee, encouraged by liberal contributions, would be enabled to rescue from perdition those who were asking day after day for admission. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Talbot, the secretary, shortly afterwards announced the subscriptions of the evening to have reached nearly £800. Mr. Digby Seymour next gave the health of the chairman, in an able and amusing speech, observing that the amount of subscriptions that night should encourage them to increased exertions in this excellent cause. Lord Robert Grosvenor then withdrew, and Mr. Seymour having evinced his aptitude for discharging the duties, by the manner in which he had proposed his lordship's health, was at once voted into the vacant office, and under his presidency the remaining business of the evening was concluded.

IRELAND.

Mr. George Mathews, a confidential clerk in Dublin Castle, to whose care the distribution of the *Regium Donum* and of other trust funds had been committed, is said to be a defaulter to the amount of £3,000. It is stated that another person, connected with a different department, is under suspension, pending an investigation of accounts. Both of the defaulters have absconded.

The *Freeman's Journal* states, on the authority of a Liverpool correspondent, that Mr. George Mathews was on board the 'Niagara' steamer, which sailed on Saturday last for America.

The Bishop of Clogher—Lord Robert Ponsonby Tottenham, second son of the Marquis of Ely—died on Sunday week, at his seat of Woodstock, in the county of Wicklow, in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and the forty-sixth year of his episcopate. The Bishopric of Clogher is the last of the Irish bishoprics suppressed by Lord Stanley's Church Temporalities Act: its revenues, about £12,000 a-year, will go to the Ecclesiastical Fund; and its jurisdiction will be added to that of Armagh.

The cholera has reappeared at Castlecomer, Kilkenny, and at Bagnalstown, in the adjoining county of Carlow. At the former place there have been five cases, three of them fatal; at the latter six cases, two of them fatal.

The Encumbered Estates Commission.—Upon a rough calculation, the whole amount as yet realized by the sale of estates under the Commissioners does not much exceed £55,000, the aggregate rentals being scarcely £4,000 per annum. During the present and ensuing months the bulk of the great properties (the Portarlington, the Kingston, the Mountcashel, &c.) will be brought to the hammer, and from the determination evinced by the court to carry out the intentions of the act of Parliament by resisting all groundless applications for postponement, there seems to be little doubt that before the close of summer all these vast estates will be in the hands of a new and numerous proprietary.

Since Wednesday afternoon an express train to Ireland has been established for the despatch of newspapers and letters, which must be posted before two p.m. at the ordinary receiving offices in London, before three at the branch offices, and before half-past three at the General Post-office. They reach Dublin early on the following morning.

The Irish Church Mission.—The anniversary meeting of this association was held on Friday, in Exeter Hall; the Duke of Manchester in the chair. During the year, the funds amounted to £4,733 14s. 8d., and the money expended to £4,035 12s. 10d.; and there had been received by the treasurer, £1,065; leaving a balance on the 1st of January, 1850, of £1,763 odd; but since the commencement of the present year that balance had been considerably reduced. District associations had been formed in Ludlow, Derby, Bath, Birmingham, Manchester, and other places. The society had fifteen missionaries, of whom nine had been ordained by bishops, and one was a converted priest. Altogether, the association had 81 agents. In the district of Galway, 401 persons had been converted from Romanism, and confirmed as members of the Church. In Dublin, Dungarvon, and other districts, equally gratifying results had attended the operations of the society. No part of the society's funds had been applied to the relief of converts.

The Widow and her Son.—Considerably more than half a century ago, there dwelt in a small borough of Forfarshire a poor widow, who earned an humble but respectable livelihood for herself and her only son by keeping a stall, principally for the sale of crockeryware, in the market-place. It was a time when gentlemen lived "harder" than they do now; and although the word "Waterfordizing" had not been invented the thing implied by it was greatly in vogue. The townspeople then were not unaccustomed to the occasional freaks and rough practical jokes of a neighbouring gentleman, who had lately succeeded to enormous property and a peerage; and there was 'no particular surprise manifested when, late one evening, the humble stall of the widow was overturned in an afterdinner frolic, and the brittle ware it contained smashed upon the street. The aggressor was Lord Panmure. Next morning the proprietress of the stall waited upon his lordship, and the claim for damages was soon settled to the satisfaction of all parties. "And now, my good woman," said the overthrower of the crockeryware, "is there anything else I can do for you?" The widow replied that she had an only son, a sharp little fellow, whom she wished to see receiving a better education than her limited means enabled her to bestow on him. Lord Panmure at once promised the necessary aid. He was as good as his word. Little Joey was sent for. The intelligence and sharpness of the boy were readily recognised, and highly commended, and was at once placed in an excellent school. Such was the curiously-caused commencement of a long career of industry and honour. The little boy, the poor widow's son, was —Joseph Hume.—*Illustrated News.*

Opposition to University Reform.—It is stated, that a strong remonstrance against the issue of any commission from the Crown, for inquiry into the affairs of the two Universities, is in course of signature, and has already received the names of nearly all the Heads of Houses at Oxford, and is likely to meet with a similar reception at Cambridge.

HINTS ON THE DUTIES OF PASTORS AND CHURCHES.

The following Letter of Resignation, sent by a young minister to his church, may interest some of our readers just now. The writer is since dead, having quitted this scene of trial and labour, at the age of thirty years, and with great joy and confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ. We omit the more local and unimportant paragraphs:—

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE INDEPENDENT CHURCH, ——.

My Dear Friends,—Having intimated to you my intention of relinquishing the position I have occupied among you, it is right that I should convey to you some of those convictions and impressions which have moved me to this resolve. Bear with me while I speak freely of the things which, being foremost among the causes of the ills you deplore, seem to me chiefly to need pondering. I should be acting unjustly to you as well as to myself did I attempt to conceal my solemn and fixed opinion concerning them, believing, as I do, that they not merely affect the circumstances of the passing time, but are of wider influence and more permanent interest.

Little more than a twelvemonth has elapsed since I commenced to serve you. I entered upon the work not without misgivings as to the existent means of amelioration, and with some mistrust in my fitness to overcome the many impediments in the way of success—yet not without a measure of hopefulness. I need not say that what I then proposed to myself was at the farthest remove from the perpetuation of things as they were. The slightest share of honesty or self-respect would prevent any man from embarking on so humiliating a mission as that. I ventured, too sanguinely, to trust that one obstacle after another would disappear and leave open to us a course of real progression. The results of a year's trial have proved my hope fallacious. Yet even now I should be reluctant to retire from the contest with what I deem wrong, were it not for an overwhelming sense of my inadequacy to cope with the difficulties still presenting themselves—an inadequacy which arises, I may say (without parading other deficiencies of which I am deeply sensible), in a great degree, from my want of sufficient bodily strength.

From my ability to take the place of an unprejudiced observer, I may, without affectation, presume that my opportunity of arriving at a correct estimate of your affairs is more favourable than that of those whose familiarity with them for a long time may at least tend to forbid the formation of a quite unbiassed judgment. Allow me then seriously to record my view of the matters which stand out most prominently to my own mind, as affecting prejudicially your interests as a church. I do not desire dogmatically to thrust my verdict upon you—nor would I have you receive it, except in so far as it may be sustained by such faithful inquiry as will, I trust, be instituted respecting it.

I venture, therefore, to press on your attention the question whether there has been among you, and to what extent, the operation of that which has so disastrously affected all the branches of the professing church—I mean, the averseness to receive such manifestations of truth as do not come in recognised and established forms. You need not be reminded that even in churches whose creeds are not printed to be eternized, there may yet be cherished much of that attachment to formularies which is most deadly in its influence on all it touches. It is to be feared that many communities of Christians who loudly protest against the evils of established religion, embrace, in other shapes, the very errors they affect to despise. Having myself come out from a system which defends and practises the boldest and most injurious ritualism, and therefore not unacquainted with its stupendous power to do harm, I have made it a leading principle of my life to combat everything which is simply external, and which excludes reality and life. A church which is actually, and not merely, professedly Independent, must be ever ready to embrace the truth as soon as it is discovered—though such admission should rend away much that has been held dear in its former experience. But is it so among us? Is there not a bolder zeal for the defence of settled customs than for the admission, at whatever cost, of things long forgotten or despised, when brought out again into the light? It will become plain to anyone who seeks to understand the dangers and the wants of the existent church, that our theology, especially that of the pulpit, has sunk from its true and ancient greatness into a dead letter—wanting spirit and power. We have failed—not because we have been nurturing absolute palpable error—but because the truth we do hold has been buried under huge masses of words, and unmeaning technicalities, traditional and ineffective. The spirit has fled and left us worshipping and adorning a corpse. Sure I am that any man who aims at raising the church from its lapsed state, though he should encounter the most formidable prejudices, must emphatically and stedfastly be a preacher—not of words, but of things.

Would not the inquiry also become you, as to whether there can be found among you that *unity of purpose*, without which there can be no advance? When men form themselves into a society, it must be for some end common to them all—for the furtherance of some object which all seek to gain alike, for the attainment of which they all agree to merge minor intents, and suppress private feelings which would be hostile to the general good. I need not speak of the end which a society of religious men proposes; it is one whose accomplishment, more than that of any other, may be thwarted by the introduction of individual feeling, and the striving for personal wishes. It is impossible for a church to fulfil its acknowledged design when divided into small sections, each having favourite ideas and peculiarities of purpose; these must ever run counter to efficiency in goodness. It is equally impossible for it to be advancing, if the zeal of its members rises and falls in proportion to the varying approval of the pastor's public ministrations—if the neglect of any course, in which all find it impossible to concur, is to be the signal for alienation, and the bitterness of suppressed strife—or if fancied preferences and supposed slights in the proceedings of the church are found to reduce the devotional meetings to nothing but a mockery and a name.

There is another point on which I may be permitted to say a word, as it is one on which I apprehend my views do not entirely coincide with yours—the spirit and mode of ministerial visitation. I most fully believe that where there is a happy connexion between a minister and a church, there must and will naturally arise the interchange of many goodly services—that mutual respect and affection will grow out of mutual knowledge and friendliness. But I cannot be brought to feel that such a state of things will ever come from a forced and formal series of pastoral visits, whose tendency seems to me to be quite in a different direction—fostering a wrong idea of the position and duties of both minister and people. What is eminently to be desired in such a relation, is rather that spontaneous and kindly intercourse which springs from love and confidence already existing. The endeavour to promote the more priestly exercise of this privilege, and the spirit which often prompts remarks at its absence, will infallibly lead to the destruction of that beautiful fellowship which ought to exist.

Forgive me if I affectionately urge on you a duty you owe to yourselves as much as to him whom you may choose as your minister—the duty of bringing fairly into light everything which may be, or supposed to be, a grievance. Thus, alone, can such things be canvassed and remedied—whereas, if suffered to lie rankling and festering beneath the surface, they invariably engender the direst diseases of the religious body, and must always most banefully affect, not only the church, but the church's preacher, who cannot, if he would, escape the withering influence of indifference and distrust.

The Knighting of Mayors.—It appears that ten of the leading mayors who were present at the late civic banquet at the Mansion-house, in honour of the projected Great Exhibition, will be knighted. "Our worthy chief magistrate," says the *Shropshire Conservative*, "did not dine, and therefore has escaped an honour we are satisfied he does not covet. Shrewsbury is the first borough, we believe, on the Queen's list, and therefore had the mayor of this town been present at the Mansion-house he would have been obliged to have responded to the toast of 'The Mayors,' and could not well have avoided being dubbed a knight. Many a less worthy person than Joseph Birch, Esq., has been so honoured. We recollect a Mr. William Walker, mayor of Leicester, being knighted by George IV., and the first document he signed afterwards was as follows:—'Sir William Walker, Night Mare.'" The daily papers publish an amusing example of "an appetite for a title." An ambitious provincial functionary writes to the Lord Mayor of London in explanation of his accidental absence at the banquet. "I am," he says, "the oldest representative of my family, on both sides ancient, and who were of local importance, and I am a professional man." "Having just been informed," he concludes, "that the honour of knighthood is to be offered to a limited number of those mayors who actually dined at his lordship's table on that occasion, and that amongst them will be included all the mayors of 'town and county,' this being one of only two or three of the same description in the realm, leads me to address your lordship with the foregoing statement, and to express a hope that through your lordship's influence and representations, —— will be considered as if it had been actually represented on the occasion referred to." Two days afterwards the Lord Mayor received another letter from the same gentleman, in which he enters into further explanations respecting the population of the borough, and other trivial matters.

Delegate Meeting of Protectionists. — On Monday, the delegates deputed by the various agricultural societies throughout the United Kingdom, to confer with the acting committee of the National Association, assembled at the offices of the Association, South Sea House. Several reports from agricultural districts, as to the condition of the inhabitants, farmers, labourers, and others, were read. It was stated, also, that in some districts the hoeing of wheat, beans, and other farming crops, has been suspended, because the farmers cannot pay for the labour. Some other preliminary business having been disposed of, the meeting adjourned to the London Tavern, where several Protectionist addresses were delivered. Mr. G. F. Young—who, on the motion of Earl Stanhope, seconded by Earl Talbot, was called to the chair—impressed upon those present his opinions. These he had in his address previously declared to be, that a dissolution of Parliament cannot now be remote, and may occur much earlier than is generally imagined. If protection is to triumph, Protectionists must be prepared for the struggle a dissolution will bring. The two great points on which preparation is indispensable to success are,—close and untiring attention to the registration of electors, and a timely selection of fit and proper candidates. He then went at some length into the details of the proposed plan for securing the return of Protectionist members at the next election.

A Frightful Series of Crimes has been perpetrated by a madman at Ingestre, in Staffordshire. Yarker, the head gamekeeper to Earl Talbot, had recently suffered from delirium tremens; Walter Murray, an assistant keeper, was appointed to watch him, with strict injunctions not to allow him to handle any dangerous weapon. Yet Murray permitted Yarker to take a gun, and went out with him to shoot jackdaws. Yarker took an opportunity to discharge a bullet at his companion, and shot him dead. The madman then returned home. There he encountered a maid servant with a child in her arms: he fired and killed the servant, the child falling from her arms unhurt. He then aimed at his sister; she dodged him, and when he fired she escaped with only two shots in her face. Yarker then hurried away into a wood, his wife following him; in a few minutes two shots were heard, and soon afterwards it was found that Mrs. Yarker had been shot through the heart, while her husband's head was shattered to pieces,

COURT, OFFICIAL, AND PERSONAL NEWS.

It was notified to the Duke of Wellington, upon his birthday, that the infant Prince having been born upon that day, it was her Majesty's intention that he should be named "Arthur," in compliment to his Grace.

There are strange rumours afloat again as to the interference of Prince Albert with the education of the Prince of Wales, in whose education, as heir apparent to the throne, the nation must naturally take a deep concern. . . . . The report is, that the Prince Consort has objected to his son being taught the Church Catechism. It is also said that his Royal Highness's tutor has declined being a party to such a dereliction of duty; and that he has therefore either resigned his responsible office, or intimated a wish to be relieved from it as soon as another arrangement can be made.—*London Correspondent of the Oxford Herald.*

Friday night's *Gazette* announces that the Queen has granted to the Rev. Gilbert Elliott, Master of Arts, the dignity of Dean of the Cathedral Church of Bristol, void by the death of Dr. John Lamb, late Dean thereof.

The Rev. James Pulling, Fellow and Tutor, has been unanimously elected Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in room of Dr. Lamb.

Mr. Commissioner Shepherd, of the Court of Bankruptcy, has sent in his resignation to the Lord Chancellor, and it has been accepted.—*Standard.*

Prince Albert, accompanied by four of the royal children, visited the exhibition of the Royal Academy on Thursday.

Dissolution of Parliament.—A deputation, consisting of the Duke of Richmond, as President of the National Association [Protectionist], Mr. George Frederick Young, as Vice-President of that body, the Earls of Eglinton and Malmesbury, Mr. Bankes, Mr. Henley, and several other leading Protectionist members of Parliament, waited on Sir George Grey on Thursday, to present addresses praying for a dissolution of Parliament. Addresses were presented from places the bare enumeration of which fills a full reporting column of the morning papers.

The New Mail Contracts for Brazils and the West Indies.—The Lords of the Treasury have just sanctioned the contract with the Royal West India Mail Packet Company for the conveyance of the Brazilian mails, and a new mail route scheme for the West India mails. The Brazilian mail route scheme is as follows:—Steamers are to run between Southampton and Rio de Janeiro, touching at the Cape de Verde Islands and Pernambuco. Branch mail steamers are to run between Rio de Janeiro and the River Plate. According to the terms of the new West India mail route scheme steamers are to run twice a month between Southampton and Chagres, calling at Madeira and Saint Thomas. These steamers are to return by the same route. St. Thomas is to be the foreign packet station, at which the inter-colonial mails are to be deposited, and from which they are to be distributed. These arrangements are to come into operation as soon as the necessary ships are complete.

Two of the Cabinet Ministers are at present confined by illness; Lord John Russell, who did not appear in the House of Commons on Monday night, and Lord Clanricarde.

Her Majesty's birthday will be celebrated on Wednesday next, the 15th inst.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday at the Foreign-office. Lord John Russell was prevented afrom ⌑ etding by indisposition.

Polish Refugees.—The eighteenth annual meeting of the Literary Association of the friends of Poland took place on Friday, with the president, Lord D. Stuart, in the chair. It was stated in the report that there were still upwards of 460 Polish refugees in England.

Singular Trance.—At the village of Farringdon, situated about nine miles from Bristol, on the road to Wells, a young woman named Ann Cromer, the daughter of a master mason, now lies in a complete state of catalepsy, in which extraordinary trancelike condition, should she survive till next November, she will have been for no less than 13 years. During the whole of this extended period she has not partaken of any solid food, and the vital principle has only been sustained by the mechanical administration of fluids. Although of course reduced to almost a perfect skeleton, her countenance bears a very placid expression. Her respiration is perceptible, her hands warm, and she has some indication of existing consciousness. Upon one occasion, when asked if suffering from pain to squeeze the hand of her mother, placed in hers for that purpose, a slight pressure, the mother avers, was plainly distinguishable; and frequently, when suffering from cramp, she has been heard to make slight moans. About 16 weeks after the commencement of her trance, she was seized with lock-jaw, which occasions great difficulty in affording her nourishment. The unfortunate young woman is 25 years of age, and has been visited by a great number of medical gentlemen, who, however, hold out no hopes of her ultimate recovery.

Arbitration instead of War.—The petition which has just been sent from Edinburgh, and presented by Mr. Cowan, M.P., in favour of Mr. Cobden's motion for arbitration and simultaneous national disarmaments, was signed, we believe, by no fewer than 9,998 individuals.—*Scottish Press.*

The London Sacred Harmonic Society performed Haydn's "Creation" on Monday evening at Exeter Hall, to a crowded audience. The solo parts were taken by Miss Catherine Hayes, Mrs. Temple, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Lawler, who acquitted themselves much to the satisfaction of the audience. The former of these vocalists is a great acquisition to Exeter Hall. Her soft and musical voice, and finished execution, were highly appreciated; and, in more than one case, the forbearance of the more sensible portion of the audience alone prevented an *encore*. Mr. Lockey, as usual, performed his part with that care and expression which are often wanting in singers of so established a reputation. The whole performance appeared to give great satisfaction; and the announcement that it would be repeated on the 29th inst. was received with much cheering.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, May 8, Two o'clock.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

The House of Lords sat yesterday for a short time, during which some petitions were presented and routine business done, but no discussion occurred of any public interest.

In the House of Commons, Sir E. Buxton gave notice, that, by an arrangement with the Government, his motion for prohibiting the importation of slave-grown sugar would be brought on for discussion upon Friday, the 31st inst.

Mr. Frewen gave notice, for the 30th inst., of a motion to repeal the malt-tax.

In reply to Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir G. Grey stated, that the second reading of the bill for prohibiting intramural interments could not be taken before the Whitsun holidays.

THE ADVERTISEMENT DUTY.

Mr. Ewart, after presenting a mass of petitions, praying for a repeal of the advertisement duty, proposed a resolution to that effect. He characterised the tax as peculiarly and universally injurious in its operation. It formed a burden upon the interchange of ideas, of information, and of commodities; interfering with the business transactions of every class, whether agricultural, commercial, literary, or artistic. It was, moreover, unjust in its incidence, mulcting the poorest advertiser in exactly the same amount as the richest, and falling exclusively upon the newspaper press, leaving the announcements in books, reviews, or upon travelling placard carts, wholly untouched. The embarrassment caused by these fetters upon publicity, the hon. member illustrated by the large increase in newspapers and advertisements consequent upon the reductions conceded in 1833 and 1837, in duty and stamps; as well as by the enormous superiority in multitude still manifested by the untaxed press of America. As it was impossible to make this tax just, by the introduction of the *ad valorem* principle; and as its amount was comparatively trifling, realizing only £157,600 a year, he contended that the best course was to abrogate it entirely.

Mr. Milner Gibson seconded the motion.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer briefly referred to the reasons he had already repeatedly urged against any further remission of taxes this session. He agreed that the duty was objectionable, and might be sometimes unjust; but he preferred to alleviate the burdens that pressed upon industry and consumption, or interfered with the health of the lower classes. He appealed to the House not to fritter away the resources of the nation.

After a few words from Mr. Hume, in support of the motion, it was rejected by 208 to 39.

Lord R. Grosvenor then moved for a select committee to inquire whether any measures can be taken to improve the sanitary condition of the journeymen-bakers, recommending his motion by drawing a very painful picture of their peculiar hardships. Sir G. Grey would have been glad to agree with this motion, and should do so if he thought it would lead to the practical result which Lord R. Grosvenor expected; but the objections he (Sir George) had urged on former occasions remained unchanged. The motion was supported by Mr. Stafford, Lord D. Stuart, Mr. G. Thompson, and Mr. S. Crawford; and vigorously opposed by Mr. Bright.

After a short reply from Lord R. Grosvenor, the House divided, when the motion was negatived by 90 against 44.

Sir R. Bulkeley then moved for a select committee to report upon all matters connected with the contract for the conveyance of the mails between Kingstown and Holyhead, and other matters relating to the engagements entered into by the Admiralty with the City of Dublin Steam-Packet Company.

After a long discussion, the motion was agreed to.

The amendments in committee of the Benefices in Plurality Bill, and other amendments, were agreed to.

The House adjourned at a quarter past 7 o'clock.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

France.—The commission on the electoral law met on Monday, to hear the preamble of the bill which was to be presented yesterday to the Assembly by the Minister of the Interior, with the demand of urgency. M. Lamartine, who had demanded leave of absence for two months to visit his property near Smyrna, has withdrawn his application in consequence of the approaching discussion on the electoral law.

Denmark.—Information from Fuhnen and Alsen shows that the Danes are busily recruiting their army.

United States.—Washington advices mention that the Senate had rejected Colonel Benton's amendment, and determined to refer the subject of admitting California and forming a territorial Government for New Mexico to a select committee of 13. The committee comprised Senators Clay, Cass, Dickinson, Bright, Webster, Philps, Cooper, King, Mason, Downes, Magnum, Bell, and Berrien. The action of such a committee would probably be a recommendation to admit California, and the establishment of a Government in New Mexico, without restriction as to slavery; the Senate would probably concur, but there were substantial grounds for believing that no such measure would become law. The *New York Herald* states that negotiations are going forward for an annexation of the island of St. Domingo to the United States. The project is said to have been favourably viewed by the Cabinet for the purpose of gaining popularity.

The Queen and Infant Prince are progressing very satisfactorily. No bulletin is issued this morning. Jane Jones, the wife of a respectable and industrious man, now in the employment of the Chester and Holyhead Railway Company, at the Greenfield station, Holywell, is to be the nurse for the Royal infant.

The Liberty of Speech Question.—The police commission at Edinburgh have, by a majority of 16 to 13, decided against allowing the judgment of the magistrate in the police court against Messrs. Russell and Sleigh to be defended in their name, or with the funds under their control, in the High Court of Justiciary, to which court these gentlemen have appealed their case, in the form of a note of suspension. The necessary steps have also been taken for bringing the action of damages, at the instance of Mr. Russell, against the Lord Provost, before the Lord Ordinary, at an early period of the ensuing session of the civil court.

The Factory Bill.—At a meeting of the delegates of the factory operatives of Lancashire and Yorkshire, held yesterday at Manchester, it was resolved to protest against the proposed Ministerial amendment upon Lord Ashley's bill.

The National Association for the Protection of Industry and Capital had a grand field-day yesterday at the Crown and Anchor Tavern (now the Whittington Club), Strand. The large hall was crowded, and the meeting was very enthusiastic. The Duke of Richmond presided, and was supported by a strong muster of peers and members of Parliament. The speeches were stormy; and, in many cases, bordered upon what the present Government have, since they took office, proceeded against as seditious. Amongst the speakers was Mr. Chowler, a tenant-farmer of Nottinghamshire, who said,—"Mr. Cobden says, if you attempt to re-introduce protection, what he will do, and what will become of the landlords; *but I say, that if the landlords stick to us, we will stick to them.*" This appeal was irresistible. The assembly rose as one man, and cheered vociferously, redoubling their shouts in an ecstasy of delight, when Earl Stanhope slapped Mr. C.'s back, and the whole platform sprang to their feet. A solemn pause ensued. Soon another electric thrill ran through the meeting, and they all rose and cheered. Mr. Chowler improved the occasion. "But, gentlemen, we will go a little further. We have got nine-tenths of the horses of the kingdom, and we have got men to ride them. We will support the Crown as well. (Here the assembly again rose and cheered.) Her Majesty need not fear *if she turns her back upon the townspeople* she will be left unprotected. We will protect her Majesty *if* she will protect us. Mr. Allnutt, of Wallingford, asked—"Would the working bees," viz., the farmers, "allow the drones to get the usual amount of dividends?" Mr. Caldecott, of Frating-lodge, in moving the fifth resolution, took care to include some other drones in the warning. "He called upon them to band in a league to withhold taxes and tithes till they procured their rights." After this there seems to have followed a continuous scream of "vociferous cheering," only now and then interrupted with articulate sounds, till the Duke of Richmond having responded to the vote of thanks, "the meeting separated," we are told on authority, "highly gratified by the proceedings of the day, and evincing the most determined resolution to carry their intentions into effect."

On his way to the House of Commons on Monday night, Mr. W. J. Fox met with an accident which will prevent him from attending to his Parliamentary duties for some days.

Seven is now the number of the Ministerial defeats; and persons out of doors, who know the importance which both Houses attach to precedent, begin to speculate upon the number which may be required to produce a resignation.—*Spectator.*

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK-LANE, Wednesday, May 8.

Our supplies of all descriptions of Grain from abroad have been very moderate since Monday, as shown by the following return:—

Arrivals this week:—Wheat—English, 660 qrs.; Foreign, 1,230 qrs. Barley—English, 280 qrs.; Foreign, 400 qrs. Oats—English, 1,370 qrs.; Foreign, 1,860 qrs.

This, coupled with the continued wet weather, has created great firmness at market this morning; and all articles, particularly Wheat, may be noted rather dearer.

LITERATURE.

Translation of Hermann Venema's Inedited Institutes of Theology. By the Rev. Alexander W. Brown, Minister of Free St. Bernard's Church, Edinburgh. London: Hamilton and Co. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark.

The manuscript of this System of Theology came into the possession of the translator several years ago. Some doubts at first existed as to its being the genuine production of Venema; these, however, have been satisfactorily resolved by examination of the contents, and the result is, that these Institutes, never published in the original language, are now for the first time submitted to the English reader. The translator's decision to publish them was a sound judgment, which we hope will be confirmed by such a reception of this first volume as will secure the publication of its successor—which is intended also to contain an account of the Author, and some observations on his theological writings.

We believe there is no little truth in complaints which have been rife, that the Church has had *doctrine* instead of *life*—dogmatic theology instead of religion; and that very baneful effects have proceeded from such substitution or confusion—that an undue importance has been attached to *credenda*—that spiritual vitality has been weakened or destroyed—and a spirit of religious exclusiveness too widely fostered. But we are unable to see the legitimacy or conclusiveness of a consequent contempt of all theological systems. We believe that such contempt is pretty much *cant;* and so far from being the mark of either superior intellect or piety, the excessive depreciation of the *science* of theology is generally the indication of shallow and insufficient attainments both in Biblical learning and metaphysical philosophy. We, therefore, are well pleased to see this careful work of "a learned divine and a godly man."

The first chapter, treating of theology in general, contains the following statement of what a theological system ought to be, and what the parts are of which it should consist:—

"It should be *didactic*, or explain and prove from Scripture or from reason the truths which it teaches; it should be *polemic* or *critical*—*i. e.*, the truths explained and proved should be vindicated from the objections and difficulties of adversaries, and a fair view given of the various opinions of those who differ. It should, moreover, be *practical*, or exhibit the moral use and tendency of the truths which have been thus, in a didactic and polemical form, set forth and discussed. As there is no theological truth which has not some practical bearing, it will be our endeavour to frame our system in this way."

After this explanation of his *method*, the author proceeds to an investigation of the sources of theology—reason and revelation. The definitions given are of sufficient interest and importance for quotation:—

"By reason, we understand the mind furnished with speculative and practical notions, by which it can distinguish between what is good and bad, and between what is true and false. It is clear, from this definition that reason includes the conscience; yet there is a certain difference between them. Reason is conversant with speculative notions, while conscience has to do with those that are practical; reason distinguishes between what is true and false in opinion; conscience, between what is good and bad in conduct."

The author proceeds to show that reason is a *primary* source of theology, but of itself *insufficient*, because man, in his fallen condition, cannot deduce, without error, even those truths which reason teaches—though, "in regard to its *essence*, it is not corrupted or depraved, and conclusions drawn from it are not false:" and, further, he cannot deduce from it truths for the satisfaction and peace of his own mind respecting a way of salvation. Therefore *revelation* is given, the other source of theological truth. Reason is not merely an instrument in the interpretation of such revelation, but is a co-ordinate source in all those things which are not beyond the reach of the former; but on truths to which reason cannot of itself attain, and which revelation only teaches—the former is subordinate to the latter. Of the revelation possessed by us it is then shown "that it is sufficient for salvation—that it is pure, entire, and uncorrupted—and that it is a source of theology beyond which there is no other."

The portion of the system of doctrines contained in this volume embraces the treatment of the following topics—of God, as to his nature and his works; of man, in his condition of innocence and in his fall; and of the effects of the fall—or sin, on the first pair and on their posterity. An extract on this *test* question will serve well to complete our indication of the characteristics and tendencies of Venema's system.

"The condition in which all men are placed in consequence of their descent from Adam is usually called *original sin*—a phrase which, though not a scriptural one, is nevertheless in common use. We do not now inquire into its propriety. But yet we observe that, although it may be admitted and employed by us, we do not understand it as implying that men are to be considered as having committed the actual sin which Adam committed in Paradise, but as implying that their condition of sin originated with him, and arose out of his fall. . . . By *original sin* we understand that condition which, according to the law of nature, has sprung from Adam, and in which man is liable to sin and all its consequences—depravity, condemnation, and punishment, in virtue of his descent from fallen parents, and on account of the fall of the first man, from whom all are sprung."

We would again express our conviction, that the translator has enriched our English theology with a work far superior to many which are held in high estimation; and we expect it will be accepted as such by students and divines, and very speedily be completed by a second volume.

LITERARY MISCELLANY.

Climate of Natal.—The climate of Natal, though generally warm, is never so oppressive as the sultry weather so frequently occurring in the course of an English summer. There is not that stagnation in the atmosphere, so productive of lassitude and weariness; neither have the inhabitants that yellow sickly appearance, so peculiar to hot climates. Being within the range of the trade winds, it is not subject to those fluctuations and uncertainties of the more southern and western parts of the Continent. The greater part of the rain falls in the summer months, commencing in October and continuing until March; during which interval thunder showers are of frequent occurrence, and are sometimes, in some measure, deleterious to the crops of grain. During the winter there is little or no rain, the air bracing and agreeable, with a bright sun and unclouded sky; the thermometer seldom varying many degrees, ranging as high as 60 degrees during the winter, and in summer to 85 degrees. From the testimony of all travellers and actual residents, there is an universal concurrence of opinion in attestation of the great salubrity and comfort enjoyed by the colony of Natal, and there can be no hesitation as characterising it as the healthiest region under the dominion of Great Britain; it is especially adapted to persons of consumptive tendencies, or who have any pulmonary affections. A medical practitioner from the colony thus writes:—"Though Natal presents, in many parts, the physical character of a country likely to produce fever, dysentery, and other diseases of a tropical country, I can say, from extended experience, that it enjoys a singular immunity from disease of every kind. During four years' residence, I witnessed but two cases of fever, both occurring after extreme exhaustion and protracted dissipation. Occasional cases of dysentery and disease of the heart are to be met with; but these can, in most instances, be attributed to extreme indulgence in spirituous drinks."—*The New Colony of Port Natal, by James Erasmus Methley.*

Lucifer Making.—Adam Smith has instructed us that the business of making a fire is divided into about eighteen distinct operations; and further, that ten persons could make upwards of forty-eight thousand pins a day with the division of labour; while, if they had all wrought independently and separately, and without any of them having been educated to this peculiar business, they certainly could not each of them have made twenty. The lucifer match is a similar example of division of labour, and the skill of long practice. At a separate factory, where there is a steam-engine, not the refuse of the carpenter's shop, but the best Norway deals are cut into splints by machinery, and are supplied to the match-maker. These little pieces, beautifully accurate in their minute squareness, and in their precise length of five inches, are made up into bundles, each of which contains eighteen hundred. They are daily brought on a truck to the dipping-house, as it is called—the average number of matches finished off daily requiring two hundred of these bundles. Up to this point we have had several hands employed in the preparation of the match, in connexion with the machinery that cuts the wood. Let us follow one of these bundles through the subsequent processes. Without being separated, each end of the bundle is first dipped into sulphur. When dry, the splints adhering to each other by means of the sulphur must be parted by what is called dusting. A boy sitting on the floor, with a bundle before him, strikes the matches with a sort of a mallet on the dipped ends till they become thoroughly loosened. In the best matches the process of sulphur dipping and dusting is repeated. They have now to be plunged into a preparation of phosphorous or chlorate of potash, according to the quality of the match. The phosphorous produces the pale, noiseless fire; the chlorate of potash the sharp cracking illumination. After this application of the more inflammable substance, the matches are separated and dried in racks. Thoroughly dried, they are gathered up again into bundles of the same quantity; and are taken to the boys who cut them, for the reader will have observed that the bundles have been dipped at each end. There are few things more remarkable in manufactures than the extraordinary rapidity of this cutting process, and that which is connected with it. The boy stands before a bench, the bundle on his right hand, a pile of half-opened empty boxes on his left, which have been manufactured at another division of this establishment. These boxes are formed of scale-board—that is, thin slices of wood planed or scaled off a plank. The box itself is a marvel of neatness and cheapness. It consists of an inner box, without a top, in which the matches are placed, and of an outer case, open at each end, into which the first box slides. The matches, then, are to be cut, and the empty boxes filled, by one boy. A bundle is opened; he seizes a portion, knowing by long habit the required number with sufficient exactness; puts them rapidly into a sort of frame, knocks the ends evenly together, confines them with a strap which he tightens with his foot, and cuts them in two parts with a knife on a hinge, which he brings down with a strong leverage; the halves lie projecting over each end of the frame; he grasps the left portion and thrusts it into a half-open box, which he instantly closes, and repeats the process with the matches on his right hand. This series of movements is performed with a rapidity almost unexampled; for in this way, two hundred thousand matches are cut, and two thousand boxes filled in a day, by one boy, at the wages of three halfpence per gross of boxes. Each dozen boxes is then papered up, and they are ready for the retailer. The number of boxes daily filled at this factory is from fifty to sixty gross. The wholesale price per dozen boxes of the best matches is fourpence; of the second quality, threepence.—*Dickens's Household Words.*

Abbas Pasha, the Present Ruler of Egypt.—On arriving at the palace, there was a strange scene of confusion, crowding, and jostling, to get into the reception-room; and for a time, I was not sure but that the Consul-General and his countrymen would be completely excluded from the presence of the Pasha. By pushing and knocking about for awhile, however, we all succeeded in getting in. The room is large, of oblong shape, has a beautifully painted ceiling, and high diwans upon three sides. In the centre of the diwan opposite the entrance, was perched a short obese figure, with not a bad though rather brutified face, and apparently about thirty-five years old. As I looked at him, I felt that it would be a sorry matter to be within his power if one should have happened to come across his path of lust and sensuality. Mr. Macaulay was conducted to the right of the Pasha; who got down from his seat, and made an awkward sort of bow on his entrance. Both the Pasha and all present remained standing while he received the firman of the Sultan, touched it with his lips, raised it reverentially to his forehead, and then handed it over to an attendant officer. Mr. Todd, the Consul, Captain Gwynne, and others of less note, occupied positions near Mr. Macaulay, on the same side: poor I got off on the left among a number of persons as insignificant and unnoticed as myself. Immediately after we were seated, a number of eunuchs and slaves, dressed for a wonder in coats and pantaloons, brought in pipes with jewelled mouth-pieces and coffee, presenting the Pasha with his on bended knee. The honour of a pipe and cup of coffee, however, was confined to a few even of the dignitaries present, which I thought rather queer hospitality. Mr. Macaulay made a short speech in French; which was translated to the Pasha by his interpreter, a fine-looking fellow. Abbas succeeded in getting out a compliment or two—but anything like the tact and skill of Mohammed Ali in conversation was too deep for him. So, after a rather ridiculous silence for some little time, he sent for the present he intended to bestow on the Consul-General. It was a handsome sword or sabre, which was put on Mr. Macaulay in presence of the Pasha; and, together with the horse outside, was bestowed on the representative of America in a pretty little speech made by the interpreter. Another half-French bow was graciously given to Mr. Macaulay and party; after which we took our leave, partly vexed, but more inclined to be amused, at the way in which the thing had gone off. Altogether, it was an insipid affair, and did not tend to raise Abbas Pasha in our estimation. Nor do I think that he would have felt particularly complaisant to our countrymen and others could he have heard the free and not altogether complimentary remarks which were made about him at Mr. Macaulay's levee that afternoon.—*Spencer's Travels in Egypt, &c.*

GLEANINGS.

A draper in a town of Yorkshire has a placard in his window to the following effect:—"Woollen and linen goods, warranted free from cotton.' Mr. Ferrand's wool-gathering league has, no doubt, suggested the idea.

Derivation of Luxury.—From *Lux*, light—on account of Light, which is a necessity for cleanliness and health, being made, through the medium of the Window Tax, an expensive luxury which only the rich can afford to enjoy.—*Punch.*

When Professor Webster was first told Dr. Parkman's body had been found, he asked, "What part of it?" So does guilt convict itself. He betrayed his knowledge that the body was dismembered.

The *Greenock Newscloth* is so called, because the printer, being fined for printing a weekly *paper* without a stamp, continued his publication on *cloth*, which is not specified in the statute.

Braintree, of church-rate notoriety, is in the market. The patron, the Rev. J. Lewis, has two rectories, value, £1,151 per annum; and his vicarage of Braintree is offered for sale, with a tempting intimation that the present incumbent is 78 years old.

A fine life-boat, capable of holding 100 persons, made of Kamptulicon, a combination of cork, India rubber, &c., may be seen at the works, in the Greenwich-road. This material is so elastic, that if a shot were sent through it, it would immediately close again, and the boat not leak.

Sir Frederick Thesiger tells a very good story of Mr. George Hudson, M.P. A *ci-devant* friend of the monarch cut him the other day in the lobby of the House of Commons, upon which his Iron Majesty, turning round, exclaimed, "Holloa, you Sir, what do you mean? What do you cut me for? I've £200,000 left!!!"

It is calculated that during the present year six millions sterling have been lost by the importing speculators of corn.—*Times.*

In punching the eyeholes of needles by hand,

children, who are the operators, acquire such dexterity, as to be able to punch a human hair, and thread it with another, for the amusement of visitors.

The *Cape Town Mail* believes "that a familiar spirit, ascending from the depths of the Colonial Office, now and then enters into the *Times* and compels it to utter those wild, furibund, inconsistent, and foolish maunderings, which have lately perplexed and astonished its readers." The *Mail* then prints side by side some articles from the *Times* on the convict question and the despatches of Earl Grey; not only are the sentiments identical, but with a few trifling exceptions, the *language* also!

A number of gentlemen, at Ealing, have subscribed to a fund for the purpose of paying competent persons to deliver lectures, which the working people of the locality are admitted to free of charge.

Mr. Webster having asked what would become of the American flag if the union were dissolved, the *Amherst Cabinet* solves the difficulty by proposing that the Free States should take the "stars" and the Slave States the "stripes."

A monument to Ebenezer Elliott, the poet, is about to be erected in Sheffield. When the necessary funds are raised, Earl Fitzwilliam is to be requested to lay the first stone.

THE LATIN FOR DISSENTING MINISTER.—In the churchyard of Stanhope the following specimen of pure Latinity occurs, celebrating the erector of a perishable monument:—"Hic lapis positus fuit ab unico ejus filio, Georgio Dissentario Ministro."—*African Journal.*

The *Examiner* asks why the name of the leader of the Protectionist party has been changed from D'Israeli to Disraeli, and suggests that the apostrophe may have been dropped, as a measure of retrenchment, or in order to please the aristocratic high-church party by softening the distastefully obtrusive Israelitish name of D'Israelites into Disraelites.

A grandson of the poet Burns is now resident in Borneo, where he has married the daughter of a prince of the Kayan nation. Mr. Burns has discovered mines of antimony and coal fields in Borneo, more extensive than any in the world, out of America.

Upwards of 200,000 disciples have been converted by Father Mathew during his visit to the United States.

A machine, it is said, has been invented in Philadelphia, which, if trundled over a tract of country, will give a more accurate survey for a railway, altitudes, depressions, and space included, than can be made by any other method, at the rate of fifteen miles a day.

A ROYAL CRADLE.—The fashionable morning journal describes with gusto the rich fabric of a new cradle prepared for the Queen's newest infant:—"The sides, which are finished, are carved in the choicest box; the difficulty of procuring which wood (of sufficient size) has been one of the causes for the delay attending the work. In the upper portion are friezes in relief, having an alternate introduction of roses and poppies, designed and executed with the purest feeling of Italian taste. Beneath them is a bold torus moulding with pinks, inserted in fluted hollows. The interiors of the rockers are ornamented with foliated dolphins, and even the edges of the foot and head are elaborately carved into scroll-work."

BIRTHS.

April 20, at Colchester, Mrs. THOMAS MOORE, jun., of a son.

April 28, at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Mrs. E. S. HILLS, of a daughter.

May 1, at No. 2, Upper Dorchester-place, New North-road, Hoxton, the wife of Mr. T. J. REDGATE, of twin daughters, one still-born.

MARRIAGES.

April 10, at the Baptist Chapel, Sutton-in-Craven, by the Rev. P. Scott, minister, the Rev. W. VARLEY, Baptist minister, of Slack-lane, near Keighley, to RUTH, youngest daughter of J. CRAVEN, Esq., New School, near Keighley.

April 23, at the Baptist Chapel, Wellington, Somerset, by the Rev. W. Hawkins, A.M., Mr. JOHN SCOTT WELLS, of Nottingham, to AGNES BURNELL, third daughter of Mr. W. D. Horsey, of Wellington.

May 1, at the Independent Chapel, Newport Pagnell, by the Rev. J. Bull, Mr. JOHN KEEP, of East Retford, Notts, to ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Mr. J. D. AYERS, of Newport Pagnell, Bucks.

May 2, at Petersfield Independent Chapel, by the Rev. W. Isaac, Mr. HENRY HOLDER, jun., of Sheet, to Miss ELLEN CHILDS, of Petersfield.

May 2, at the Independent Meeting, Chishill, Essex, by the Rev. J. Mirams, brother-in-law of the bride, SARAH, younger daughter of Mr. J. COLE, of Sheerness, to Mr. JOSEPH HAGGER, farmer, of Chishill.

DEATHS.

April 23, aged 35, Mr. JOHN SHEAD KING, of Upminster-hall Farm, and lately of Ovington, both in the county of Essex. He was for some time the energetic deacon of the Independent church at Clare, Suffolk; and, till his decease, held the same office at the Independent church, Upminster, Essex.

April 28, after a long and protracted illness, borne with great patience and Christian resignation, aged 77 years, Mrs. EVANS, the beloved mother of the Rev. David Evans, of Tredegar, Monmouthshire.

April 30, the Rev. BENJAMIN ISAAC, late minister of the gospel at Gloucester Chapel, near Haggerstone Church.

May 3, at her residence in Paradise-row, Rotherhithe, in her 81st year, Mrs. MARY PHILIPS. She had been nearly forty years a member of the Congregational Church in Jamaica-row, Bermondsey, and was one of the kindest friends of the poor, as well as a liberal contributor to most of our religious and benevolent institutions.

THE HULL BATHS AND WASHHOUSES were opened to the public last week, but the crowds were so great, and many of those who obtained admission so riotous, that the police were called in, and the permission of free entrance was withdrawn.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.—Meetings have been held at Preston, Bradford, and Glasgow, to petition Parliament in favour of extending and improving national education on the secular and local basis. A public meeting, to petition Parliament in favour of a national system of education, has also been held at Halifax, and the same subject was warmly debated in the Court of Common Council on Thursday.

THE estimated amount for finishing the official residences of the Speaker and other officers of the new House of Commons is £30,100. The expense already incurred in respect of the residences is £74,000.

HOSPITALITY.—Measure not thy entertainment of a guest by his estate, but thine own. Because he is a lord, forget not that thou art but a gentleman; otherwise, if with feasting him thou breakest thyself, he will not cure thy rupture, and perchance rather deride than pity thee. Occasional entertainment of men greater than thyself is better than solemnly inviting them. Then short warning is thy large excuse; whereas, otherwise, if thou doest not over-do thy estate, thou shalt under-do his expectation, for thy feast will be but his ordinary fare. A king of France was often pleased in his hunting to wilfully lose himself, to find the house of a private park-keeper; where, going from the school of state affairs, he was pleased to make a play-day to himself. He brought sauce (hunger) with him, which made coarse meat dainties to his palate. At last the park-keeper took heart and solemnly invited the king to his house, who came with all his court, so that all the man's meat was not a morsel for them. "Well," said the park-keeper, "I will invite no more kings;" having learned the difference between princes when they please to put on the vizard of privacy, and when they will appear like themselves, both in their person and attendants.—*T. Fuller.*

MONEY MARKET AND COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Stock Market, throughout the whole of the past week, has been dull, very little business having been done and no material variation having taken place in prices. We understand, however, that a quiet money business is doing, although speculation has been very inert. The Unfunded Debt has maintained a high range, and Bank Stock has ruled firm.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday.	Sat.	Mond.	Tues.
3 per Ct. Cons.	HOLIDAY.	95¼ ⅜	96 5/8	96 5/8	95⅞	95⅞
Cons. for Acct.		95¼ ⅜	95⅛ ¼	95¼ ⅜	95⅛	95⅛
3 per Ct. Red.		94⅛ ⅜	94⅛ ⅜	93⅞ ⅛	94⅛	94⅛
New 3½ per Ct.						
Annuities...		96¼ 7/16	96¼ 7	97⅛ 6/16	96⅞	97
India Stock ..		265	266½	265½	—	267
Bank Stock ..		206 7	207	206	207	206
Exchq. Bills..		69 pm.	67 pm.	71 pm.	70 pm.	70 pm.
India Bonds ..		90 pm.	92 pm.	93 pm.	91 pm.	92 pm.
Long Annuit..		8 5/16	8 5/16	—	8 5-16	8 5/16

The transactions in the Foreign Market have also been to a very moderate amount. Prices, however, have ruled firm. Peruvian is quoted at 70½; Russian scrip at 2½ premium; Mexican at 28¾.

The Share Market has been in a very quiet state, and has been characterised by the same absence of buyers as for the past twelvemonths. The variation in prices since our last issue has been unusually small, amounting to 1½ in Great Western, 1 South Western and Midland, ⅞ in South Eastern, and ½ in Great Northern.

In the Produce Market prices have ruled very heavy. Though the supply has not been so large, Sugar is 6d., and in the instance of Barbadoes 6d. to 1s. lower. Native Ceylon Coffee has fallen again 4s. to 5s., being 25s. decline from the highest point; still a rather better business has been done within the last day or two. Spices have ruled in favour of buyers. Tea has been dull. Indigo is at about previous rates. Cotton in active demand, and ⅛d. per lb. higher. Wool, at the public sales, is going off rather quietly, the quantity being large.

PRICES OF STOCKS.

The highest prices are given.

BRITISH.	Price.	FOREIGN.	Price.
Consols.....	95⅞	Brazil	—
Do. Account	96	Equador	3⅞
3 per Cent. Reduced	94⅝	Dutch 4 per cent ..	85⅝
3½ New.....	97	French 5 per cent..	—
Long Annuities	8⅛	Granada.....	16⅛
Bank Stock.....	206	Mexican 5pr.ct.new	28⅞
India Stock	267	Portuguese	33⅝
Exchequer Bills—		Russian	95⅜
June	70 pm.	Spanish 5 per cent..	17½
India Bonds.....	92 pm.	Ditto 3 per cent....	37⅛
		Ditto Passive.....	5⅞

THE GAZETTE.

Friday, May 3.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

An account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 27th day of April, 1850.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Notes issued	29,938,875	Government Debt..	11,015,100
		Other Securities ..	2,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion	15,727,998
		Silver Bullion	209,877
	£29,937,875		£29,937,875

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

	£		£
Proprietors' Capital	14,553,000	Government Securities (including Dead Weight Annuity)	14,299,170
Rest	3,084,289		
Public Deposits (including Exchequer, Savings' Banks, Commissioners of National Debt, and Dividend Accounts).....	4,693,443	Other Securities ..	9,781,347
Other Deposits	10,907,429	Notes	9,641,600
Seven-day and other Bills	1,187,973	Gold and Silver Coin	706,960
	£34,424,077		£34,424,077

Dated the 2nd day of May, 1850.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

BANKRUPTS.

BOND, NOAH GEORGE, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, bookseller, May 21, June 10: solicitors, Mr. Clough, Huddersfield; and Mr. Courtney, Leeds.

CHILTON, JOSEPH, Bath, apothecary, May 14, June 11: solicitor, Mr. Hellings, Bath.

HEATH, RICHARD, Three Colt-street, Limehouse, brass-founder, May 11, June 13: solicitors, Messrs. Freeman and Bothamley, Coleman-street.

HOLLINGWORTH, JOHN, Kingston-upon-Hull, shipowner, May 15, June 5: solicitors, Mr. Burrell, White Hart-court, Lombard-street; and Messrs. Wells and Smith, Hull.

KEITLEY, RICHARD, Cheltenham, builder, May 15, June 12: solicitor, Mr. Packwood Cheltenham.

MASON, GEORGE CHARD, Ringley, Lancashire, cotton spinner, May 15, June 5: solicitors, Messrs. Sale and Co., Manchester.

MUNRO, GEORGE AUGUSTUS, Liverpool, merchant, May 16, June 20: solicitor, Mr. Holden, Liverpool.

PAGE, GEORGE, Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, coal dealer, May 17, June 12: solicitor, Mr. Bolton, Wolverhampton.

PENFOLD, CHARLES, Arundel, Sussex, ironmonger, May 21, June 18: solicitors, Mr. Lewis, Raymond-buildings, Gray's-inn; and Holmes and Son, Arundel.

PENROCK, JAMES, York, fatrier, May 23, June 21; solicitors, Mr. Dale, York; and Mr. Bulmer, Leeds.

TAPLEY, FREDERICK, Sidmouth, Devonshire, linendraper, May 14, June 11: solicitors, Messrs. Lawrence and Co., Old Fish-street.

WILSON, GEORGE, Wakefield, Yorkshire, draper, May 23, June 21: solicitors, Mr. Grundy, Manchester; and Messrs. Richardson, Leeds.

WILSON, JOEL, West Bromwich, Staffordshire, iron manufacturer, May 22, June 12: solicitor, Mr. Hodgson, Birmingham.

WRAY, EDWARD, Kingston-upon-Hull, draper, May 15, June 5: solicitors, Messrs. Shackles and Son, Hull.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ARTHUR, GEORGE, Ferry-port-on-Craig, baker, May 7, 30.

BAIN, THOMAS, and Co., Glasgow, wright and box maker, May 6, 27.

BAIN or ELLISON, ISABELLA, Tain, hotel keeper, May 9, 29.

DICKSON, THOMAS, Forfar, horse dealer, May 6, 27.

HAINING, WILLIAM, Edinburgh, superintendent of police, May 9, 30.

POLMAN, WILLIAM LOOSEMORE, Currie, paper manufacturer, May 9, 29.

SMITH, JAMES, Forfar, farmer, May 10, June 7.

STEWART, PETER, Edinburgh, coach contractor, May 10, 30.

DIVIDENDS.

James Addington, London-road, Southwark, oilman, first div. of 9s. 9d.; May 8, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—George Ainger, Green-street, Grosvenor-square, hotel keeper, first div. of 1s. 11d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Edwards's, Sambrook-court—George Barton and John Barton, Manchester, copper roller manufacturers, third div. of 1s. 4d.; May 14 and 28, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Fraser's, Manchester—Paul Biddle, Judd-street, New-road, St. Pancras, tallow chandler, first div. of 11d.; May 6, and two subsequent Mondays, at Cannan's, Birchin-lane—John Bowler, the Crescent, Southwark-bridge-road, hat manufacturer, first div. of 4s. 6d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Groom's, Abchurch-lane—Henry Bridges, Oxford-street, cabinet maker, first div. of 3s. 6d.; May 8, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—William Bridgland, Sydenham, Kent, carpenter, first div. of 1s. 4½d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Edwards's, Sambrook-court—George Brown, Carlisle, draper, third div. of 2½d., in addition to 5s. 9d., previously declared; May 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Wakley's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Elias Cocker, Manchester, cotton manufacturer, first div. of 1s. 7½d.; April 30, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Hobson's, Manchester—John Ellison, Selby, Yorkshire, draper, first div. of 6s.; May 6, and any subsequent day, at Young's, Leeds—Thomas Gales, Ford, Durham, ship builder, fourth and final div. of 4s. 9d., in addition to 7s. previously declared; May 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Andrew Paton Halliday and Eliza Paton, Cornbrook, Lancashire, manufacturing chemists, second div. of 5s.; May 7, and any subsequent Tuesday, at Hobson's, Manchester—Wm. Wyndham Hughes, Borrowash, Derbyshire, surveyor, first div. of 2½d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Edwards's, Sambrook-court—David King, Eltham, Kent, surgeon, third div. of 8d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Edwards's, Sambrook-court—John Phillpson, North Shields, printer, first and final div. of 3s. 4½d.; May 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Wakley's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Robert Spencer, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Daniel Mallett, Colegate-street, Belvidere-road, Lambeth, lighterman, first div. of 14s.; May 8, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Graham's, Coleman-street—Robert Spencer, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, scrivener, second div. of 4d., in addition to 8d. previously declared: May 4, and any subsequent Saturday, at Baker's, Newcastle-upon-Tyne—Peter Walker, Gee-cross, Cheshire, cotton waste dealer, first and final div. of 5d.; May 14 and 28, at Fraser's, Manchester—William Ward, Warnford-court, City, merchant, third div. of 4½d.; May 6, and two subsequent Mondays, at Cannan's, Birchin-lane—William Atkinson Warwick, Chesterton, Cambridgeshire, printer, second div. of 1s. 1d.; May 8, and three subsequent Wednesdays, at Graham's, Coleman-square—Robert Wise, Fleet-street, City, portable water closet manufacturer, third and final div. of 1½d.; May 4, and three subsequent Saturdays, at Groom's, Abchurch-lane.

Tuesday, May 7.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of the 6th and 7th William IV., c. 85:—

Zion Chapel, Warblington, Hampshire.

Henham Independent Chapel, Henham, Essex.

Methodist New Connexion Chapel, Cheslyn Hay, Staffordshire.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

EVANS, DANIEL, Merthyr Tydfil, carpenter.

WILLIAMS, ARTHUR, Narbeth, Pembrokeshire, draper.

BANKRUPTS.

BROWNE, THOMAS SAMUEL, Manchester, patent agent, May 17, June 7: solicitors, Messrs. Cunliffes, Charlewood, and Bury, Manchester.

DUNCAN, FREDERICK, Liverpool, merchant, May 21, June 11: solicitors, Messrs. Harvey, Falcon, and Harvey, Liverpool.

JOHNSON, GASKELL, Liverpool, coal merchant, May 21, June 11: solicitor, Mr. Dodge, Liverpool.

MEANLEY, SAMUEL, Walsall, butcher, May 18, June 17: solicitor, Mr. Slaney, Birmingham.

NUNN, JOHN BURGESS, Colchester and Ipswich, tailor, May 15, June 21: solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Turner, Aldermanbury.

TUCKER, GEORGE WOLLAND, Tottenham-court-road, farrier, May 20, June 20: solicitors, Messrs. Sole and Turner, Aldermanbury.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

GRANT, D. C., Forres, Elgin, writer, May 14, June 4.

M'KERROW, H., Sorn, Ayrshire, farmer, May 11, June 8.

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, May 6.

The undermentioned list shows a large arrival of foreign Corn since our last, but we had not much fresh in to-day of either English or foreign. The weather being wet and unseasonably cold likewise, caused more life in our market, and good English Wheat was taken off readily by the millers at 1s. to 2s. per qr. advance. Foreign Wheat was held at higher prices, but not having many country buyers, the sales were slow. We had not much demand for foreign Flour, and being held on higher terms, sales were limited. Barley, both for malting and grinding purposes, sold more freely at 1s. advance. In Malt but little doing. Fine English Beans sold 1s. to 2s., and Peas 1s. dearer, and both ready sale. We had a fair demand for Oats, and good fresh samples were fully 6d. dearer. Linseed Cakes fully as dear. The current prices as under.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, Smithfield, Monday, May 6.

Our market, to-day, was very moderately supplied with foreign Sheep; but the number of Beasts and Calves was seasonably extensive. From our own grazing districts, the arrivals of Beasts fresh up this morning fell short of those reported on this day se'nnight by nearly one thousand head, owing to which, and the increased number of buyers in attendance, the Beef trade ruled somewhat active at an advance in the quotations of quite 2d. per 8lbs. The primest Scots sold without difficulty at from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 6d. per 8lbs. Nearly the whole of the supply was disposed of. The arrivals of Beasts from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire amounted to 2,000 Scots, homebreds, and shorthorns; from other parts of England, 400 Herefords, runts, &c.; and from Scotland 300 horned and polled Scots. There was a very considerable increase in the supply of Sheep; hence the demand for that description of stock was heavy in the extreme, at a fall in the value of 2d. per 8lbs. As nearly the whole of the Sheep were shorn, our quotations refer to those only. Lambs, the numbers of which were large, moved off heavily, and the currencies gave way 2d. per 8lbs. The primest Down Lambs were not worth more than 4s. 6d. per 8lbs. The sale for Calves ruled heavy, at the late decline in value. In Pigs next to nothing was doing, at last week's prices.

Head of Cattle at Smithfield

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday....	860	5,000	280	270
Monday ..	3,369	24,510	149	240

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	2s. 4d. to 3s. 6d.	Veal.....3s.	0d. to 3s. 10d.
Mutton.....	2 10 .. 4 4	Pork.....3	2 .. 4 0

Newgate and Leadenhall Markets, Monday, May 6.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	2s. 4d. to 2s. 6d.	Inf. Mutton	2s. 8d. to 2s. 10d.
Middling do	2 8 .. 2 10	Mid. ditto ..	3 0 . 3 4
Prime large	3 0 .. 3 2	Prime ditto	3 4 .. 3 6
Prime small	3 4 .. 3 6	Veal.....	2 10 .. 3 4
Large Pork	3 2 .. 3 6	Small Pork..	3 8 .. 4 0

Lambs .... 4s. 6d. to 5s. 7d.

PROVISIONS, London, Monday.

Our market has undergone no material alteration. The dealings in Irish Butter last week for local use were of a trifling character; but the delivery, including shipments to other markets, was good, and the stock reduced to a small compass. Prices nominal. New Limerick was offered for three months at 67s. on board, and not sold. Of foreign we had liberal supplies, a steady demand, and prices the turn cheaper. Bacon.—Neither Irish nor American moved freely, and not much done in either at previous rates. In Middles, Hams, and Lard there was no change in demand or value worth notice.

English Butter Market, May 6.—Our trade is in a sluggish state, and current rates for the best Dorset Butter are barely supported, while all middling and inferior dairies are neglected. Our fresh Butter market is well supplied, with a tendency to lower prices. Dorset, fine weekly, 86s. to 84s. per cwt.; do., middling, 56s. to 70s.; do., old, nominal; Fresh, 7s. to 11s. per doz. lbs.

BREAD.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6d. to 6½d.; of household ditto, 4d. to 5½d. per 4lbs. loaf.

SEEDS, London, Monday.—The Seed trade was certainly not active, but the ungenial weather was not without effect, and prices of several articles had an upward tendency.

British Seeds.

Cloverseed, red 35s. to 40s.; fine, 45s. to 50s.; white, 35s to 50s.
Cow Grass [nominal].....—s. to —s.
Linseed (per qr.).....sowing 54s. to 56s.; crushing 40s. to 42s.
Linseed Cakes (per 1,000 of 3lbs. each) ..... £8 0s. to £9 0s.
Trefoil (per cwt.) ..... 14s. to 18s.
Rapeseed, new (per last) ..... £35 to £38
Ditto Cake (per ton) .....£4 15s. to £5 10s.
Mustard (per bushel) white ..... 6s. to 9s.; brown, 8s. to 11s.
Coriander (per cwt.) .....16s. to 25s.
Canary (per quarter) new.....70s. to 73s.
Tares, Winter, per bush..... nominal; Spring 3s. 0d. to 4s. 0d.
Carraway (per cwt.).....28s. to 29s.; new, 30s. to 32s.
Turnip, white (per bush.) —s. to —s.; do. Swedish, —s. to —s.

POTATOES, Southwark Waterside, May 6.—The arrivals from the continent are quite equal to the demand. Good York Regents are scarce, and are meeting a ready sale. The following are this day's quotations:—Yorkshire Regents, 90s. to 120s. per ton; Wisbech do., —s. to —s.; Scotch do., 60s. to 90s.; Do. Cups, 60s. to 70s.; Do. Whites, 35s. to 40s.; French Whites, 40s. to 65s.; Belgian, 40s. to 50s.; Dutch, 30s. to 40s.; Rhenish, 40s. to 60s.

HOPS, Borough, Monday, May 6.—We have rather more business doing in our market than at the date of our last report. Prices remain steady at late quotations.

WOOL, City, Monday, May 6.—The imports of Wool into London last week were small, including 669 from Algoa Bay, 184 from Germany, 18 from Portugal, and 21 from the Cape of Good Hope. The public sales of Wool, to comprise about 20,000 bales, commenced on Thursday at the Hall of Commerce, to a very full attendance, and the biddings have been tolerably brisk at about the February range.

Liverpool, May 4.—Scotch.—There is no alteration to report about Scotch generally. The demand for all kinds continues limited, and for some small parcels to clear out and close sales, something less than the quotations has been taken.

	s. d.		s. d.
Laid Highland Wool, per 24lbs.	8 3	to	9 0
White Highland do.....	10 6		11 0
Laid Crossed do., unwashed.....	9 9		11 6
Do., do., washed	10 0		13 6
Laid Cheviot do., unwashed.....	10 0		13 6
Do. do., washed	14 0		18 6
White Cheviot do. do.....	22 0		24 0
Import for the week.....	148 bags.		
Previously this year	1,608 bags.		

Foreign.—There were public sales here on Tuesday the 30th ult., which were well attended. The best and most useful class were eagerly competed for, and realized full rates. Some of the inferior and bad conditioned were withdrawn. The first series of the London public sales commenced on Thursday, and are reported to be going off well, which will give a better tone to our market.

Imports for the week.....	764 bales.
Previously this year	19,366 bales.

TALLOW, Monday, May 6.—Letters from St. Petersburg, dated the 22nd ult., state that 900 casks of Tallow had changed hands, for August delivery, at prices equal to 38s. 3d. per cwt. laid down here. Since our last report a full average time-of-year business has been transacted in our market at stationary figures. To-day, P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 36s. 8d. to 37s., and for delivery during the last three months 38s. 3d. per cwt. Town Tallow, 35s. 6d. to 36s. per cwt. net cash; rough fat, 2s. per 8lbs.

Particulars of Tallow.

	1846.	1847.	1848.	1849.	1850.
	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.	Casks.
Stock this day ...	11,217	9,238	7,792	24,818	26,471
Price of Y. C..	42s. 6d. to —s. 0d.	47s. 6d. to —s. 0d.	48s. 0d. to —s. 0d.	38s. 6d. to —s. 0d.	36s. 9d. to 37s. 0d.
Delivery last week	812	401	1,031	1,258	1,738
Do. from 1st June	84,846	78,627	94,805	93,007	89,605
Arrived last week	337	662	555	929	54
Do. from 1st June	80,239	75,240	94,496	110,292	90,605
Price of Town ...	44s. 0d.	49s. 6d.	50s. 6d.	39s. 6d.	38s. 0d.

HIDES, Leadenhall.—Market hides, 56lb. to 64lb., 1¼d. to 1½d. per lb.; ditto, 64lb. to 72lb., 1½d. to 1¾d.; ditto, 72lb. to 80lb., 2d. to 2¼d.; ditto, 80lb. to 88lb., 2¼d. to 2½d.; ditto, 88lb. to 96lb., 3d. to 3¼d.; ditto, 96lb. to 104lb., 3¼d. to 3¼d.; ditto, 104lb. to 112lb., —d. to 4d.; Calf-skins, each, 2s, 6d, to 6s, 0d.; Horse hides, 6s, 6d.

OILS.—Linseed, per cwt., 30s. 9d. to —s.; Rapeseed, English refined, 37s. 0d. to —s.; brown, 38s. 0d.; Gallipoli, per tun, £44; Spanish, £43; Sperm £82 to £—, bagged £83; South Sea, £33 0s. to £—; Seal, pale, £37 0s. to £— 0s.; do. coloured, £33; Cod, £35 to £—; Cocoa Nut, per ton, £38 to £40; Palm, £32.

HAY MARKETS, Saturday, May 4.

Smithfield.—Supply tolerably good, and trade very dull.
Cumberland.—A fair average supply, and a heavy demand.
Whitechapel.—Trade very dull, at barely late rates.

At per load of 36 trusses.

	Smithfield.	Cumberland.	Whitechapel.
Meadow Hay ..	48s. to 68s.	50s. to 70s.	48s. to 68s.
Clover Hay	60s. 88s.	60s. 84s.	60s. 88s.
Straw.....	21s. 28s.	22s. 28s.	21s. 28s.

METALS, London, April 20.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
English Iron. *a*	per ton.	**Foreign Steel.** *c*	
Bar, bolt, and square, London.....	5 5	5 15 0	Swedish keg .. 14 0 14 15 0
Nail rods	6 5	6 10 0	Ditto faggot .. 14 5 15 0 0
Hoops	7 5	7 10 0	**English Copper.** *d*
Sheets, singles..	7 15	8 5 0	Sheets, sheathing, and bolts..... per lb. 0 0 10
Bars, at Cardiff and Newport ..	4 12 6	4 15 0	Tough cake, per ton..88 10 0
Refined metal, Wales,	£3 0 0	—3 15 0	Tile 87 10 0
Do. Anthracite.....	3 10	0	Old copper, *e*, per lb.. 8¼—9
Pig, in Wales ..	3 0	3 15 0	**Foreign Copper.** *f*
Do. do. forge ..	2 10	3 2 6	South American, in bond 90 0 0
Do. No. 1, Clyde, net cash.....	3 2 6	—2 3 6	**English Lead.** *g*
Blewitt's Patent Refined Iron for bars, rails, &c., free on board, at Newport..	3 10	0	Pig..per ton..18 0 18 10 0
Do. do. for tin-plates, boiler plates, &c. ..	4 10	0	Sheet 19 0 19 10 0
Stirling's Patent toughened pigs, in Glasgow	2 13	0	Red lead 19 10 0
Do. in Wales ...	3 0	3 10 0	White ditto.....25 0 0
Staffordshire bars, at the works....	5 15	6 0 0	Patent shot 21 0 0
Pigs, in Staffordshire	3	5 0	**Foreign Lead.** *h*
Rails.....	4 15	—5 0 0	Spanish, in bond 17 5 18 10 0
Chairs	4	0 0	**English Tin.** *i*
Foreign Iron. *b*			Block, per cwt. 3 13 3 17 0
Swedish 11	10	13 0 0	Bar 3 14 3 18 0
CCND	0	0 0	Refined..... 4 5 0
PSI	0	0 0	**Foreign Tin.** *k*
Gourieff	0	0 0	Banca..... 3 12 3 15 0
Archangel	0	0 0	Straits..... 3 11 3 13 0
			Tin Plates. *l*
			IC Coke, per box 1 1 1 7 0
			IC Charcoal.... 1 11 1 13 0
			IX ditto 1 17 1 18 0
			Spelter. *m*
			Plates, warehoused, per ton .....15 0—15 5 0
			Do. to arrive 0 0 0
			Zinc. *n*
			English sheet, per ton 21 10 0
			Quicksilver, *o* per lb. 0 5 0

Terms.—*a*, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; *b*, ditto; *c*, ditto; *d*, 6 months, or 3 per cent. dis.; *e*, 6 months, or 2½ per cent. dis.; *f*, ditto; *g*, ditto; *h*, ditto; *i*, ditto; *k*, net cash; *l*, six months, or 3 per cent. dis.; *m*, net cash; *n*, 3 months, or 1½ per cent. dis.; *o*, ditto, 1½ dis.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.

THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION is NOW OPEN, at their Gallery, 5, PALL-MALL EAST, from Nine till Dusk.

Admittance, One Shilling. Catalogue, Sixpence.

GEORGE FRIPP, Secretary.

LUXURIANT AND BEAUTIFUL HAIR! WHISKERS! &c.

OF all the Preparations introduced for the reproduction of the Human Hair, and the production of MUSTACHES, WHISKERS, EYEBROWS, &c., none have gained such a world-wide celebrity and immense sale as MISS DEAN'S CRINILENE. It is eminently successful in nourishing, curling, and beautifying the hair, and checking and preventing greyness in all its stages, strengthening weak hair, preventing it falling off, &c. &c. For the reproduction of hair in baldness, from whatever cause, and at whatever age, it stands unrivalled. One trial only is solicited to prove the fact. It is an elegantly scented preparation, and sufficient for three months' use will be sent, post free, on receipt of Twenty-four postage stamps, by Miss DEAN, 48, Liverpool-street, King's-cross, London.

AUTHENTIC TESTIMONIALS.

"I constantly use your Crinilene for my children. It restored my hair perfectly."—*Mrs. Long, Hitchin, Herts.*

"I have now to complain of the trouble of shaving, thanks to your Crinilene."—*Mr. Grey, Eaton-square, Chelsea.*

Professor Ure, on analyzing the Crinilene, says:—"It is perfectly free from any injurious colouring, or other matter, and the best stimulant for the hair I have met with. The scent is delicate and very persistent."

CURE YOUR CORNS AND BUNIONS.

Those who wish to walk with perfect ease will find Miss Dean's ABSORBENT the only radical cure for Corns and Bunions. It is guaranteed to cure them in three days, without cutting or pain. One trial is earnestly solicited by all suffering from such tormentors.

YOURSELF! WHAT YOU ARE, AND WHAT FIT FOR!

"To see ourselves as others see us."—*Burns.*

MISS GRAHAM continues, with amazing success to delineate persons' characters from their handwriting, pointing out gifts, defects, talents, tastes, affections, and many other things hitherto unsuspected. Persons desirous of knowing themselves, or their friends, must send a specimen of the writing, mentioning sex and age, or supposed age, of the writer, and enclosing Thirteen uncut Postage Stamps, to Miss GRAHAM, 6, Ampton-street, Gray's-inn-road, London, and they will receive a graphic, minute, and interesting written delineation of what the writer really is, and for what pursuits qualified.

The numerous testimonials daily received, and the favourable notices of the public press, establish the accuracy of Miss Graham's system.

The following testimonial has just been received from an eminent phrenologist:—"I consider your delineation of character a perfect masterpiece. Had you been a phrenologist, and examined his head, it could not have been more accurate."

All persons wishing to test the value of the science, or ascertain the character of any person privately, are requested to send a specimen of their writing as above.

PREVENTION of COUGHS and COLDS.

Persons liable to attacks of coughs and colds will entirely escape them by the occasional use of that celebrated remedy,

DR. LOCOCK'S PULMONIC WAFERS,

Which have a pleasant taste, and never fail to give instant and permanent freedom from all irritation of the lungs. Upwards of 300 cures of asthma, consumption, coughs, &c., have been performed by this medicine, and published during the last twelve months. Sold at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box by all medicine vendors. Agents, Da Silva and Co., 1, Bride-lane, Fleet-street, London. Also,

DR. LOCOCK'S FEMALE WAFERS,

The only remedy recommended to be taken by Females. Have no taste of medicine. Price 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. per box.

Beware of Counterfeits in the Form of Pills.

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT,
SUDBROOK PARK, NEAR RICHMOND, SURREY.

THIS Institution, which has been in full and successful operation for eight years, is conducted by JAMES ELLIS, M.D., who resides in the house, and has thus the opportunity of exercising a constant superintendence of the treatment.

During a lengthened residence at Grafenburg, Dr. Ellis had peculiar opportunities of studying the principles and practice of the Water Cure, under Vincent Priessnitz, who has recommended patients returning to England to place themselves under his care; added to which, he has made a personal inspection of the first establishments on the continent and in England.

His own experience during a practice of eight years, part o which he was a coadjutor of Dr. Weiss, enables him confidently to assert, that all diseases curable, and many incurable by any previously known means, can be safely and successfully treated by a proper application of the Water Cure *alone*.

Sudbrook Park adjoins Richmond Park on its southern and sheltered side, and contains upwards of a hundred acres. It is richly wooded, and the pleasure grounds are extensive and beautiful, containing many appliances for the recreation and exercise of the patients. It is also within five minutes' walk of the most beautiful part of the river Thames, which is accessible for the amusements of boating and fishing.

By special permission of the Queen, there is also a private access to the Royal Park of Richmond.

The air is celebrated for its purity, and the soil being composed of gravel, is peculiarly dry and healthy, allowing the exercise of walking at all seasons.

The Mansion is admirably adapted for the purpose, the rooms being lofty and spacious. It was formerly the residence of the Dukes of Argyll and Buccleuch.

The domestic arrangements, superintended by Mrs. Ellis, are on a complete and liberal scale.

The house is abundantly supplied with the purest water, including among other sources the celebrated Silver Spring, which takes its rise in Richmond Park;* and the Plunge Baths, Douches, &c., are fitted up in the most complete manner.

It is believed that the improvements made during the past winter have rendered this Establishment one of the most complete in Europe.

Terms:—

Consultation and Entrance Fee, One Guinea.

Single-bedded Rooms, Three to Four Guineas per week and upwards.

Double-bedded Rooms, Six Guineas per week, and upwards.

Private Apartments, or Suites of Apartments, may be engaged.

The above charges include Board, Lodging, Professional Attendance, and all weekly expenses, except 4s. per week to the Bath Attendant. Patients on entering the Establishment cannot be charged for less than one week, after which a daily charge only will be made.

Strangers desirous of inspecting the Mansion, Baths, Douches, Pleasure Grounds, Park, &c., are admitted on Wednesdays from 10 till 4 o'clock, by cards only, which may be obtained of Mr. Trelawney Saunders, bookseller, No. 6, Charing Cross; Wall's Library, Richmond; or at the Star and Garter, Richmond Hill. Visitors will be required to insert their names and addresses in the Visitors' Book. The Richmond Railway Station is within two miles of Sudbrook Park: an Omnibus runs to meet several of the trains, Fare 6d. Fly from the Station, 1s. 6d. To the Kingston Station is four miles. Omnibuses from St. Paul's Churchyard pass Sudbrook Park several times in the day. Fare 1s. 6d., exclusive of luggage.

Further particulars may be obtained on application to Mr. JOSEPH DYER, Secretary, at the Establishment.

* It is related that Cardinal Wolsey, from the well-known excellence of the water of this vicinity, had it conveyed in pipes across the Thames, to supply his palace at Hampton Court.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

A Certain Remedy for disorders of the Pulmonary Organs—in Difficulty of Breathing—in Redundancy of Phlegm—in Incipient Consumption (of which Cough is the most positive indication) they are of unerring efficacy. In Asthma, and in Winter Cough, they have never been known to fail.

KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES are free from every deleterious ingredient; they may, therefore, be taken at all times, by the most delicate female and by the youngest child; while the Public Speaker and the Professional Singer will find them invaluable in allaying the hoarseness and irritation incidental to vocal exertion, and consequently a powerful auxiliary in the production of melodious enunciation.

Prepared and sold in Boxes, 1s. 1½d., and Tins, 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each, by THOMAS KEATING, Chemist, &c., No. 79, St. Paul's Church-yard, London; Retail, by all Druggists and Patent Medicine Vendors in the Kingdom.

N.B.—To prevent spurious imitations, please to observe that the words "KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES" are engraved on the Government Stamp of each box.

RECENT AND IMPORTANT TESTIMONIALS.

St. Paul's Cathedral, Nov. 30, 1849.

Sir,—I have much pleasure in recommending your Lozenges to those who may be distressed with hoarseness. They have afforded me relief on several occasions when scarcely able to sing from the effects of Catarrh. I think they would be very useful to Clergymen, Barristers, and Public Orators.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
THOMAS FRANCIS,
To Mr. Keating. Vicar Choral.

CURE OF ASTHMA OF SEVERAL YEARS' STANDING.

Cainscross, near Stroud, Gloucestershire,
March 20, 1850.

Sir,—Having been troubled with Asthma for several years, I could find no relief from any medicine whatever, until I was induced about two years ago to try a box of your valuable Lozenges, and found such relief from them that I am determined for the future never to be without a box of them in the house, and will do all in my power to recommend them to my friends.

If you consider the above testimonial of any advantage, you are quite at liberty to make what use of it you please.

I am, Sir, your most obliged servant,
Thos. Keating, Esq. W. J. TRIGG.

79, St. PAUL'S-CHURCHYARD.

RUPTURES PERMANENTLY AND EFFECTUALLY CURED WITHOUT A TRUSS!!

DR. HENRY GUTHREY'S extraordinary success in the treatment of all varieties of single and double ruptures is without a parallel in the history of medicine. In every case, however bad or long standing, a cure is guaranteed. The remedy is quite easy, and perfectly painless in application, causing no inconvenience or confinement whatever; is free from danger, and applicable to male and female of any age.

Sent (post-free) to all parts of the world, with full instructions, rendering failure impossible, on receipt of 6s., by Post-office order or cash, by Dr. HENRY GUTHREY, 6, Ampton-street, Gray's-inn-road, London. Hundreds of Testimonials and Trusses have been left behind by persons cured, as trophies of the success of this remedy, which Dr. Guthrey will willingly give to those who require to wear them after a trial of it. Post-office orders must be made payable at the Gray's-inn-road Office.

Letters of inquiry should contain two postage-stamps for the reply. In every case a cure is guaranteed. At home for consultation daily, from 10 till 4 o'clock. (The Sabbath excepted.)

IMPORTANT TESTIMONIAL.

"Your remedy has been entirely successful. I have not been so free from pain for nine years."—J. Elvey, Kew, Surrey.

This day, foolscap, with portrait and vignettes, 3s. 6d. cloth,

THE LIGHTED VALLEY; or, Closing Scenes in the Life of ABBY BOLTON. By One of her Sisters. With a Preface by her Grandfather, the Rev. WILLIAM JAY, Bath.

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THE CHURCH—ITS REVIVAL.

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The church restored. Psal. cii. WATTS.

LET Zion and her sons rejoice,
Behold the promised hour;
Her God hath heard her mourning voice,
And comes to exalt his power.

32mo Edition.—ROAN, 2s.

THE LORD'S SUPPER.

643 L.M. Penitence. Doversdale.
The power and glory of God. KEBLE.

O GOD of mercy, God of might,
How should weak sinners bear the sight,
If, as thy power is surely here,
Thine open glory should appear?

46mo Edition.—ROAN, 1s. 4d.

MAN—HIS LOVE.

315 7's. Hotham.
Brotherly Love. WESLEY.

JESUS, Lord, we look to thee:
Let us in thy name agree;
Show thyself the Prince of Peace;
Bid all strife for ever cease.
By thy reconciling love
Every stumbling block remove;
Each to each unite, endear;
Come and spread thy banner here.

"The selection of hymns is remarkably judicious; and the indexes are more perfect than anything of the kind that has yet fallen into our hands."—*Evangelical Magazine.*

"Dr. Reed's idea is a good one. The adoption of ONE book for the entire community is an object much to be recommended."—*Christian Witness.*

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Congregations desiring it, may have a Special Title-page, with the name of their own Chapel inserted.

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GREAT EXHIBITION of the INDUSTRY and INGENUITY of the CHINESE.—HEWETT'S WONDERFUL CHINESE COLLECTION, which is acknowledged by all to be the most interesting Exhibition in London, has already (this Season) been visited by hundreds of the Nobility and Gentry. It comprises some of the most extraordinary and attractive displays of ingenuity ever seen in this country, and offers an unusual opportunity to those who are desirous of becoming acquainted with the productions of this strange and but little known people. There is No Charge for Admission; and purchasers will find the prices charged for the articles on sale, which comprise the useful as well as the ornamental, to be very moderate, and such as must command a ready sale.

HEWETT'S WONDERFUL CHINESE COLLECTION, 18, FENCHURCH-STREET, CITY, on the right hand side from Gracechurch-street.

THE HUMAN HAIR.

OF the numerous compounds constantly announced for promoting the growth or reproduction of the Human Hair, few survive, even in name, beyond a very limited period; whilst

ROWLANDS' MACASSAR OIL,

with a reputation unparalleled, is still on the increase in public estimation. The unprecedented success of this discovery, either in preserving the Hair in its original strength and beauty, or restoring it when lost, is universally known and appreciated; and is recorded by testimonials most numerous in themselves, and certified by the highest authorities. It has obtained the exclusive patronage of royalty, not only as regards our own court, but those of the whole of Europe. From its exquisite purity and delicacy, it is admirably adapted for the hair of children, even of the most tender age, and is in constant use in the nursery of royalty, and by the families of the nobility and aristocracy. It is alike suited for either sex, and whether employed to embellish the tresses of female beauty, or to add to the attractions of manly grace and aspect, will be found an indispensable auxiliary to the toilet both of ladies and gentlemen.

Price 3s. 6d. and 7s.; or Family Bottles (equal to four small) at 10s. 6d., and double that size 21s.

On the wrapper of each bottle of the GENUINE article are these words, in two lines, ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL. Sold by A. ROWLAND and SONS, 20, Hatton-garden, London, and by all chemists and perfumers.

INDISPENSABLES.

BORWICK'S GERMAN BAKING POWDER, with Directions by the QUEEN'S PRIVATE BAKER, and under the especial patronage of the Lords of the Admiralty, for making light, wholesome, and nourishing Bread, Tea Cakes, Norfolk Dumplings, &c. &c., without Yeast, and Puddings without Eggs; and if Lard or Dripping be used in Pastry, the Powder removes all unpleasant taste. It will keep any length of time. In 1d., 2d., and 6d. packets, and 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s. canisters.

A FEW OF THE NUMEROUS TESTIMONIALS RECEIVED IN ITS FAVOUR.

Buckingham Palace, March 23, 1849.

Dear Sir,—After giving your Baking Powder a fair trial, I beg to inform you that I find it a most excellent and useful invention, and I should say especially so in those parts of the country where yeast is difficult to obtain, and particularly on board ship, &c. &c. . . .

In your Directions for Use, I should advise, &c. &c. (See Directions on Packets.)

Remaining very sincerely yours,
C. DOLL, Private Baker to her Majesty.

From W. GLASS, Esq., Analytical Chemist to Sir W. BURNETT, M.D., F.R.S., &c., Director-General of the Medical Department of her Majesty's Navy.

Dated April 19, 1849.

Sir,—For your satisfaction I have analyzed it (Borwick's German Baking Powder), and find its composition to be, &c.—These ingredients are of the purest quality, and well dried. The proportions have been carefully adjusted and mixed. The Mixture forms a beautiful farinaceous powder, well qualified for raising bread, it is very portable, and as easily kept dry as Arrow Root or Starch, which it resembles in appearance. In my opinion its presence in bread will be decidedly beneficial, &c. &c. . . . .

Two Hundred Canisters form part of the stores of her Majesty's ship "Resolute," in search of Sir J. Franklin.

THE QUEEN'S OWN CUSTARD POWDER,

For making Nutritive and Delicious Custards in one minute, without Eggs or Cream. In 2d. packets.

ROTHWELL'S PATENT FIRE-LIGHTERS AND REVIVERS.

The Cleanest, most useful, economical, sure, and speedy Preparation ever before introduced. Five for 1d., one of which will light a Fire without wood or paper, and part of one will rekindle very quickly almost expiring embers.

BORWICK'S MAGIC FURNITURE CREAM, AND FRENCH POLISH REVIVER,

For imparting a rich transparent polish to Furniture, with half the usual trouble. In 1d. and 2d. pots.

HUDSON'S REAL ROYAL WASHING POWDER,

(Used in the Queen's Laundry) supersedes soda, lime-waters, and other pernicious ingredients too generally used in washing, and is acknowledged, by parties of the highest authority, to enable families to complete a wash in a shorter period of time than any other article ever offered to the public. As no rubbing is required unless the clothes are extremely dirty, a wash can be finished in an incredibly short time. In 1d., 2d., 3d., and 6d. packets.

HUDSON'S ENTIRELY SOLUBLE BLUE

The best article extant for Gentlemen's Shirts, Collars, and Fronts; also for Cambrics, Linens, and Laces generally, to which it imparts a colour not to be obtained by any other means. In 1d. and 2d. packets.

ALBERT'S ROYAL WATERPROOF DUBBING.

THE LADIES' SANITARY SAND TABLETS,

For cleansing, whitening, and beautifying the hands. In 1d. and 2d. tablets.

Wholesale of BORWICK and PRIESTLEY, Merchants, Manufacturers, and Drysalters, 24 and 25, London-wall, London, and all wholesale Druggists and Grocers in the Kingdom; retail of all respectable Druggists, Grocers, and Oilmen everywhere.

NO. 8, KING WILLIAM-STREET, CITY, corner of Abchurch-lane, facing the London Life Association.

The PROUD PRE-EMINENCE obtained by this ESTABLISHMENT in the sale of TEA, COFFEE, and ARTICLES of COLONIAL PRODUCE, is a satisfactory proof that our endeavour to obtain public patronage has been successful. The PRINCIPLE on which it has been conducted is fully appreciated; and the system of purchasing none but the best breaks of TEA, the finest growths of COFFEE, and other genuine articles connected with the trade, and selling them at a mere commission on the cost, has been universally approved.

To sell good Tea we must first know where and how to buy it. We are practical men, and perfectly conversant with the Best Articles for FAMILY CONSUMPTION—we recommend no other. Our quotations will prove that OUR TERMS ARE LOWER than other Establishments, whilst for RICHNESS of FLAVOUR, STRENGTH, and PURITY, our teas will be found all that the most fastidious can require.

The position we occupy as TEA and COFFEE MERCHANTS, and Importers of Colonial Produce, is infinitely more favourable to the requirements of Families than that of the mere Tea Dealer alone; we have made no pretensions which have not been fulfilled. This concern was opened to supply the Public with the very best Tea, and the produce of our colonies, at the very lowest prices; we have succeeded in obtaining a position of which we are proud, and it is our determination to lose no opportunity, and spare no exertion to maintain for our ESTABLISHMENT the reputation it has obtained as being the Best and Cheapest in the Kingdom. On all original Tea packages of 80lbs. weight, we shall still allow the overweight of two pounds, and on every 40lbs., an overweight of one pound.

BLACK TEAS.

	s.	d.		s.	d.
Good useful Congou	2	10	The best black Tea imported	4	4
Strong Congou, Souchong kind	3	2	The best Lapsang Souchong	4	4
Fine Congou, Pekoe flavour	3	6	The best Assam Souchong	4	1
Finest Congou imported	4	0			

GREEN TEAS.

	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
The best Gunpowder Tea	5	8	Middling to ordinary	3	4	to 3	8
The best Ouchain	5	6	Hyson, superfine	5	0		
The best Hyson	5	8	Hyson, very choice	4	0	to 4	4
Gunpowder, very fine	5	0	Hyson, fine	3	8		
Fine bright	4	8					
Middling to good, 3 10 to 4		2					

COFFEES.

The great advance on low interior Coffees does not affect us or our customers. We are well known as purveyors of good Coffee only. The berry prepared on the most scientific principle, and possessing that DELICIOUS AROMA only found in the GENUINE ARTICLE, must commend itself to all large consumers and families generally.

	s.	d.
Roasted Plantation, fine	1	1
Ditto, finest	1	2
Java, fine	1	3
Costa Rica, finest	1	4
Mocha, fine	1	4
Choicest Old Mocha (usually charged 1s. 8d. to 2s.)	1	6

PHILLIPS and CO., 8, King William-street, City, corner of Abchurch-lane, facing the London Life Association, No. 8.

TOOTHACHE.—Letter from Mr. Henry Appleyard.—"118, Newgate-street, London, July 8, 1848. Dear Sir,—I think I should be wanting in gratitude and feeling to you and the public, did I not testify to the efficacy of your truly invaluable and cheap cure for this excruciating pain of Toothache, which I suffered for five days, trying various means to gain temporary relief, without success. Procuring a packet of BRANDE'S ENAMEL, I mixed one half of it, and applied it to my tooth, much decayed, at the back of the lower jaw; I succeeded in filling the cavity, though large, and am happy to say am free from all pain, and enabled to bite on the decayed tooth as well as on any in my head. Yours gratefully, Henry Appleyard."—Brande's Enamel is sold by all Chemists, in packets at 1s., or will be sent, post-free in return for thirteen stamps, by John Willis, 24, East Temple-chambers, Fleet-street, London. Twenty authentic testimonials, with full directions for use, accompanying each packet, which contains enough Enamel to fill several teeth.

CAUTION.—The great success of this preparation has induced numerous unskilful persons to produce spurious imitations, and to copy BRANDE'S ENAMEL Advertisements. It is needful, therefore, to guard against such impositions, by seeing that the name of JOHN WILLIS accompanies every packet.

BRANDE'S TOOTH POWDER

Is strongly recommended to all who desire healthy and beautiful Teeth and Gums. Its composition is *chemico-mechanical*. By its *chemical* properties it deodorises bad breath, prevents scurvy and bleeding of the gums, fixes loose teeth in their sockets, renders the gums hardy and unsusceptible of cold, thus preventing nervous pains of the head and face; and by the *mechanical* properties it gives the teeth a pure whiteness, removes carious specks, and prevents the accumulation of tartar. It is also important to state that BRANDE'S TOOTH POWDER does not decompose or in any way affect "BRANDE'S ENAMEL," which other powders might do. Sold in Boxes at 1s. 1½d. each.

BRANDE'S BRONCHIAL SEDATIVE

Effectually cures Coughs, Bronchitis, Asthma, Influenza, and all pulmonary disorders. Sold in Packets at 1s. 1½d., and in Boxes at 2s. 9d.

CORNS AND BUNIONS.

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND, patronised by the Royal Family, Nobility, Clergy, &c., which gives relief on the first application.

Of all minor evils incident to humanity, few produce greater suffering, or detract more from the pleasure of the higher classes of society, than those troublesome annoyances, Corns and Bunions.

How often does the pedestrian, rambling over hill and dale, find his enjoyment of the beauties which Nature unfolds to him, alloyed with excruciating pain resulting from an irritable Corn! How does the man of business, compelled by his avocations to spend many hours each day in standing or walking, and his progress impeded, and his engagements consequently forfeited, by the annoyance arising from these vexatious appendages! How often does the poor labourer, "wending his weary way," perhaps many miles, to his daily toil, find himself crippled by the torture they produce! And how many among the fairer portion of creation, instead of being able to participate in the pleasures of the morning promenade, or join at evening the merry dance or many waltz, are compelled to forego those indulgencies altogether, or to share them as martyrs to suffering produced from the same cause!

On the danger of cutting corns, especially as regards elderly persons, that eminent surgeon, the late Sir Astley Cooper, remarks in his lectures, "that he has known gangrene not unfrequently result from it, which has ended fatally."

PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND (Corn Plaster) is generally admitted to be the best emollient application for Corns and Bunions, and is worthy of a trial on the part of those who are afflicted with such unpleasant companions.

Testimonials have been received from upwards of one hundred Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest eminence, as well as from many officers of both army and navy, and nearly one thousand private letters from the gentry in town and country, speaking in high terms of this valuable remedy.

CAUTION.—Observe! Unprincipled Medicine Vendors supply spurious articles for these; but be sure to have none but PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND, prepared by JOHN FOX. The genuine have the name of JOHN FOX on the Government Stamp.

Prepared only by John Fox, in boxes at 1s. 1½d. each; or three small boxes in one for 2s. 9d.; and to be had, with full directions for use, of all respectable Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the United Kingdom. A 2s. 9d. box cures the most obdurate Corns.

*** Ask for PAUL'S EVERY MAN'S FRIEND.

Paul's Corn Plaister is sold by the following respectable Chemists and dealers in Patent Medicine:—Barclay and Sons, Farringdon-street; Edwards, 67, St. Paul's-churchyard; Butler and Harding, 4, Cheapside; Prentis, 84, Edgeware-road; Newbury, St. Paul's; Sutton, Bow-churchyard; Johnstone, 68, Cornhill; Sanger, 150, Oxford-street; Willoughby and Co., 61, Bishopsgate-street Without; Eade, 39, Goswell-street; Prout, 229, Strand; Hannay and Co., 63, Oxford-street; and retail by all respectable Chemists and Medicine Vendors in London.

CARPETS, CURTAINS, CABINET and UPHOLSTERY FURNITURE, BEDDING, &c., of Sterling Quality, at Moderate Prices:—

Splendid Brussels Carpets, from 2s. 6d., 3s., and 3s. 6d. per yard.
Elegant patent Tapestry ditto, 2s. 11d. to 3s. 6d. per yard.
All Wool Bed-room Carpets, 1s. 6d., 2s., to 2s. 6d. per yard.
Elegant Damasks in every shade of colour, 7½d. to 12½d. per yard.
Mahogany four-post Bedstead, with handsome Cornice and Rods, French polished, with rings, 3½ guineas.
Solid Rosewood drawing-room Chairs, all hair, 16s. 6d. to 20s.
Dining-room Chairs, warranted all hair, 12s. 6d. to 17s. 6d.
Ditto, covered with Morocco, all hair stuffing, 18s. 6d. to 22s. 6d.
Easy Chairs, in every style, 30s., 40s., to 50s.
Mahogany Wash-stand, marble top, £1 12s. 6d.
Japanned ditto, 4s. 6d.
Chamber Chairs, 1s. 9d.
Elegant Gilt Window Cornices, 3s. 6d. per foot.

JOHN VOLLUM, No. 3, FINSBURY-PAVEMENT, LONDON, respectfully solicits the Nobility, Gentry, and Families furnishing, having regard to economy, and wishing to procure furniture of sterling quality, at moderate prices, to inspect his very extensive and most superb stock of Cabinet and Upholstery Furniture, Bedding, &c., the whole of which being manufactured under his own personal inspection, of thoroughly seasoned materials, and by first-rate workmen, he is convinced the quality cannot be surpassed by any house in London. The striking superiority of this class of furniture over the showy, worthless trash, now so universally introduced, will be at once apparent to all gentlemen of taste and judgment.

The Show-rooms contain an extensive display of Silk, Worsted, and Union Damasks, Satin Stripe Tabourettes, Brocadilles, Velvets, Chintzes, &c., suitable for window-curtains and bed-hangings, from the most plain to the most *recherché* productions of the British and continental looms, at prices that will ensure the greatest satisfaction. This establishment enjoys a reputation of upwards of forty years standing. A written warranty given with every article; also references of the highest respectability, if required. Patterns, designs, and estimates, given in town or country, without any charge if not approved of. Catalogues of prices to be had on application, or sent post-free. No charge for packing country orders. Observe, JOHN VOLLUM, Cabinet Manufacturer, Upholsterer, Carpet, Bedding, and General Furnishing Warehouseman, No. 3, FINSBURY-PAVEMENT, LONDON,

SPECIAL NOTICE TO INTENDING ASSURERS.

INTENDING LIFE ASSURERS are respectfully invited to compare the Principles, Rates, and whole Provisions of the

SCOTTISH PROVIDENT INSTITUTION

with those of any existing Company.

In this Society the whole Profits are divisible among the Policy Holders, who are at the same time exempt from personal liability.

It claims superiority, however, over other Mutual Offices, in the following particulars:—

1. PREMIUMS AT EARLY AND MIDDLE AGES ABOUT A FOURTH LOWER.
2. A MORE ACCURATE ADJUSTMENT OF THE RATES OF PREMIUM TO THE SEVERAL AGES.
3. A PRINCIPLE IN THE DIVISION OF THE SURPLUS MORE SAFE, EQUITABLE, AND FAVOURABLE TO GOOD LIVES.
4. EXEMPTION FROM ENTRY MONEY.

ALL POLICIES INDISPUTABLE UNLESS OBTAINED BY FRAUD.

Forms of Proposal, Prospectus containing full Tables, Reports of the Proceedings at the Annual Meetings, and every information, may be obtained (gratis) on application at

THE LONDON OFFICE, 12, MOORGATE-STREET.

GEORGE GRANT,
Agent and Secretary for London.

The REPORT by the DIRECTORS to the TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, held on 20th February last, showed that 567 new policies had been issued, assuring £238,219, the Annual Premiums being £7,212. The mortality in the year, notwithstanding the prevalence of cholera, was only one per cent.

The following Progressive View of the Society's Business in each of the last seven years was appended to the report:—

In Year.	Number of New Policies.	Amount of New Assurances.	Premiums on these.
1843	256	£126,530	£5,318
1844	310	127,645	3,510
1845	348	153,437	4,090
1846	416	191,102	5,483
1847	472	213,632	6,171
1848	430	172,714	5,199
1849	567	238,219	7,212

The progress indicated by this Table is the more satisfactory, as it has been attained without the expenditure of any part of the funds in commission to third parties not the accredited agents of the institution.

SPECIMENS OF PREMIUMS, FOR LIFE AND FOR TWENTY-ONE YEARS, TO ASSURE £100 AT DEATH.
WITH WHOLE PROFITS.

Age.	Payable for whole of Life.	Payable for 21 years only.	Age.	Payable for whole of Life.	Payable for 21 years only.	Age.	Payable for whole of Life.	Payable for 21 years. only.
25	£1 18 0	£2 10 8	32	£2 3 5	£2 16 4	39	£2 12 11	£3 4 10
26	1 18 6	2 11 3	33	2 4 6	2 17 5	40	2 14 9	3 6 4
27	1 19 2	2 11 11	34	2 5 7	2 18 6	41	2 16 8	3 7 10
28	1 19 11	2 12 10	35	2 6 10	2 19 8	42	2 18 8	3 9 5
29	2 0 8	2 13 8	36	2 8 2	3 0 11	43	3 0 11	3 11 1
30	2 1 6	2 14 6	37	2 9 8	3 2 2	44	3 3 3	3 12 10
31	2 2 6	2 15 5	38	2 11 3	3 3 6	45	3 5 9	3 14 9

The twenty-one years' scale is especially suitable to Ministers and Professional Gentlemen commencing to assure at early and middle ages. They are thus entirely relieved of all payments when they have passed the prime of life, and that for Annual Premiums not much exceeding those commonly charged for the whole period of life.

All desirable information will be afforded by the London Secretary, by communicating with whom residents in any part of the kingdom can readily assure in this Office, without fines for non-appearance, or any extra charge whatever.

London, 12, Moorgate Street, City. GEORGE GRANT, Secretary.

DELIVERED CARRIAGE-FREE TO ALL PARTS OF ENGLAND.

TEAS AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

TEA WAREHOUSE, 2, BUCKLERSBURY, CHEAPSIDE, LONDON.

THIS ESTABLISHMENT was commenced in the year 1830. Its successful progress during Twenty Years has gratified our anticipations. The patronage of the public has elevated its position to one of the largest in the Trade.

Our main object has been, and still is, to supply the public on TRADE TERMS. Great and assuming as such an undertaking appears to be, it is obvious that to do Business on a Wholesale Scale, it is necessary to have wholesale appliances. In conformity with these ideas, our locality was chosen in a bye thoroughfare, where space and accommodation are sufficient to carry on trade to any extent, but without those merciless and enormous expenses inseparably attached to retail shops in prominent situations, whereby an extravagant profit is rendered necessary. Hence it will be seen that we are in a position to supply the public on the best and most economical terms, in fact, to supply at first hand, by which all intermediate profits are saved.

The immense variety of TEAS now imported into this country demands the most scrutinising caution. In this we have considerable advantages, as from the extent of our trade we are enabled to employ a qualified and experienced person, whose sole duty is that of carefully selecting, tasting, and appropriating Teas for consumption.

The following are our present quotations:—

BLACK TEAS.

	s.	d.
Common Tea	2	8
(The duty on all being 2s. 2½d., renders comment on the quality of this Tea unnecessary.)		
Sound Congou Tea	3	0
(A good useful Tea for economical and large consumers.)		
Strong Congou Tea	3	4
(A Tea very much approved of.)		
Fine Souchong Tea	3	8
(Pekoe flavoured. Strongly recommended.)		
Fine Pekoe Souchong	4	0
(This Tea is more in repute than any other; it is a very superior Tea.)		
Finest Pekoe Souchong	4	4
(This is a high-class Tea.)		
Finest Lapsang Souchong	5	0
This is a rare Tea, very scarce, of an extraordinary flavour.)		

GREEN TEA.

	s.	d.
Common Green	3	0
Young Hyson	3	4
(This will mix with the 3s. Black.)		
Fine Young Hyson	3	8
(We recommend this with the 3s. 4d. black.)		
Superior Young Hyson	4	0
Fine Hyson	4	0
Gunpowder Tea	4	4
The Finest Young Hyson	5	0
(This is fit for any use.)		
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